

Reagan fails to boost standing

LOS ANGELES (R) — President Reagan has failed to bolster his weakened standing with the public over the Iran-contra scandal, despite a televised address and speaking appearances around the country, a poll published Friday showed. At the same time, the Los Angeles Times survey said, a boost in public support for U.S. aid to Nicaragua's anti-government contra rebels generated by Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North's testimony before Congress had all but evaporated. Col. North, a White House aide, was fired last week when news broke of the covert arms sales to Iran and the diversion of profits to the contras. Congressional hearings into the affair ended this month and a criminal investigation is now under way. The Los Angeles Times, which interviewed 2,040 adults for five days ending on Wednesday, said half of those questioned still think Mr. Reagan lied about the affair, a majority believes it has damaged his presidency and an increasing number consider him more to blame than congress. The poll showed 51 per cent believed Mr. Reagan has lied, while 32 per cent felt he had not. On contra aid, the poll showed 48 per cent opposed it to 34 per cent, with 18 per cent undecided.

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Convoy in Kuwait after deception

BAHRAIN (API) — Three Kuwaiti tankers escorted by American warships reached their home waters safely Friday, the U.S. Defence Department announced. "The voyage from the central (Arabian) Gulf waters was quiet and without incident," the Pentagon said in a statement. The Pentagon said the 294,739-ton supertanker Townsend and the twin liquefied gas carriers Gas Queen and Gas Princess, both 46,723 tons, entered Kuwaiti waters at 5:31 p.m. Kuwait time (1430 GMT). The report stunned Gulf observers who at the very same time were reporting the convoy was stalled in mid-Gulf by high seas and winds that kept mine-hunting helicopters deck-bound (See page 2). "Yes, yes, they fouled us," said one shipping source, speaking on condition of anonymity, who said he could not confirm the report and even cast doubt on whether it was true. The convoy was escorted up in Kuwaiti waters by the destroyer USS Kidd and the frigates Hawes and Klakring. The U.S. navy has used deception to keep its Gulf convoy movements secret since it began the escorting operation July 20, and has enjoyed some success, but nothing matched Friday's coup.

Geneva court to get Iran arms papers

GENEVA (R) — A Geneva magistrate said Friday he expected to receive secret Swiss bank documents relating to the Iran-contra affair next week, the first step towards transferring them to U.S. criminal investigators. A Swiss Justice Ministry spokesman said he expected it would be a further two or three weeks before the documents were forwarded to the United States. Switzerland's federal court Thursday rejected appeals by three key figures in the scandal, including retired U.S. air force Major-General Richard Secord, to block release of the records.

U.S. denies seeking NATO summit

SANTA BARBARA (R) — The White House has denied press reports that President Reagan was seeking a summit of allied leaders, probably in New York in the autumn. "There is no such meeting planned," presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater said. "The story is not true." Press reports in Tokyo and Bonn said Mr. Reagan was seeking a summit of the 16 NATO allies and Japan to discuss arms control and other issues.

Moscow to start Rust trial on Sept. 2

MOSCOW (R) — Teenage West German pilot Mathias Rust, who landed a light plane near Red Square in May, will be tried in an open session of the Supreme Court in Moscow starting on Sept. 2, TASS news agency said Friday. Rust, 19, who landed the plane after an unauthorized flight from Finland, faces up to 10 years in jail on charges of violating international flight rules.

Reagan has no comment on spy case

WASHINGTON (USIA) — White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater declined comment on Thursday on the charge by Rafael Eitan that top officials of the Israeli government knew of and approved the Jonathan Pollard spy operation. "We have no comment on it, period," he told a questioner. Asked if Washington would regard it as "serious" if the Israeli prime minister had approved a spying operation directed against the United States, he replied, "I don't have anything on it. We wouldn't comment on it anyway." As to whether Washington is satisfied with the degree of cooperation Israel has offered in the Pollard investigation, Fitzwater said he "won't have any judgment about the government of Israel." Israel has called the Pollard case a "rogue operation," conducted without the knowledge of government higher-ups.

Conflicting signals over Hart's plans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gary Hart refused Friday to comment on reports that he may re-enter the race for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination, but a close associate said the former senator told him overnight, "I don't have any intention of being a candidate." Bill Shore, a top aide to Mr. Hart for several years, quoted his former boss as saying.

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Iraqi jets bomb Iranian factories

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said its fighter-bombers destroyed three Iranian factories in air raids on Friday, resuming an air offensive against Iran's economy after a one-day lull. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted a military communiqué as saying the targets were an aluminum plant in the western city of Arak and sugar factories in Dezful and Shushtar southwest of Arak.

The two sugar plants were also hit four days ago and the communiqué said the new raids were aimed at preventing the Iranians from repairing the installations. The communiqué said all the Iraqi planes returned safely to their bases after the raids that took place within a 15-minute period just before noon.

There was no immediate comment from Tehran. But the Iranians have claimed that scores of people have been killed or wounded in Iraqi air strikes on industrial and population centres in the last few days.

Iran has retaliated by shelling the southern Iraqi city of Basra and other border towns. That has triggered fears that the two combatants in the Gulf conflict were building up to a renewal of their sporadic "war of the cities" in which thousands of civilians on both sides have been killed.

The Iraqis launched their latest bombing campaign Aug. 10 after a month-long lull that began July 20 when the United Nations Security Council passed a resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Iraq accepted the resolution, but Iran has given an ambiguous response while apparently playing for time on the diplomatic front. The Iraqis have so far not resumed attacks on Iranian tankers carrying Tehran's vital oil exports, which provide an estimated 90 per cent of its foreign currency revenue.

This was apparently due to U.S. pressure on Baghdad to help give U.N. diplomatic efforts to end the war a chance. But Iraq's resumption of air attacks on Iranian oilfields and other industrial targets on land undermined Iraq's growing impatience with this curb on its military strategy.

U.S. Representative Stephen Solarz met Thursday with Kuwaiti leaders to discuss tensions in the Gulf.

Mr. Solarz held talks with the oil minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah, on the "oil situation in the Gulf region in light of the tension prevailing in the region," an official source said.

U.S. announces new command in charge of Gulf task force

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Pentagon announced on Friday it was placing all U.S. military units in the Gulf area under a new "joint task force Middle East" and installing a two-star navy admiral as the on-scene commander.

The move, disclosed Thursday by Pentagon sources, was described in a statement as "simply a sound management step to ensure the effective coordination and integration of our military forces in the region."

"This action was brought about because of increased presence and activities of U.S. forces in the area," the statement said. "The change will strengthen command-and-control arrangements."

The Pentagon said the task force would be commanded by Rear Admiral Dennis M. Brooks, 52, the commander of the navy's carrier group five. That unit is headquartered in the Philippines.

The Defence Department said Adm. Brooks would assume responsibility for the navy's Middle East force, which operates inside the Gulf, as well as any other navy, battle group positioned

nearby to support U.S. convoy operations.

At the moment, the latter includes the aircraft carrier Constellation, which is operating in the northern Arabian Sea and providing air cover for any convoys moving through the Strait of Hormuz. Another battle group led by the battleship Missouri is sailing towards the region.

The Pentagon said Adm. Brooks would operate from one of the ships in the region, but it declined to say which one. The sources have said he probably will establish his command centre on the aircraft carrier.

The Pentagon said Adm. Brooks would assume responsibility for all U.S. operations in the area, including those given to Rear Adm. Harold Bernese, commander of the 10 ships assigned to the Gulf.

In reply to questions, the Pentagon said the new arrangement, expected to be fully operational in two to three weeks, did not reflect dissatisfaction with Adm. Bernese.

It said he continues to do an "outstanding job."

The Pentagon also denied the new command signalled an increased build-up of U.S. forces in the Indian Ocean.

"Our goal is to commit the minimum number of forces necessary to accomplish the assigned mission. However, if the demands of the mission change, we will review the need for increasing or decreasing forces."

Asked whether this was an escalation and a provocation, a Pentagon spokesman, Chris Baumann, said: "No, it is simply a sound management step to ensure the effective coordination and integration of our military forces in the region."

At least 41 U.S. ships and more than 20,000 men have been ordered to the Gulf region, together with combat aircraft, minesweeping helicopters, elite special force units, fast-patrol boats and, probably, submarines.

Iran warns of all-out war after U.S. rejects new hostage deal

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran's parliament speaker claimed Friday that U.S. naval forces have made the Gulf insecure and warned of an "all-out war" if Washington chose confrontation.

"You should be ready" for such a conflict, Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani told a Muslim congregation in a Friday sermon at Tehran University.

Iran sought out confrontation with the United States, but if the U.S. navy attacked the country, the warships would be targets for Iran, the powerful leader said.

His remarks were carried by Tehran Radio and the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA). Mr. Rafsanjani's remarks followed a reaffirmation by Washington of its refusal to make deals for the release of foreign hostages held in Lebanon.

Iran's latest offer of a prisoner-for-hostage swap was made by Mr. Rafsanjani in an interview on Thursday with U.S. television.

"I am not suggesting that I have absolute power to do that. I only promise to make my best efforts. I think I can be of some help," he said.

The offer brought a categorical rejection from an American gov-

ernment deeply embarrassed over secret arms sales to Iran which became President Ronald Reagan's worst foreign policy scandal.

"Our response to Mr. Rafsanjani is no deals, no release of the military equipment, no pressure on Israel to release prisoner, no pressure on Kuwait to release prisoners," State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley told reporters.

Mr. Rafsanjani had suggested swapping Shiite prisoners held in Israel and Kuwait for hostages in Lebanon and said delivery of U.S. arms bought by the Shah of Iran before his fall in 1979 would improve relations.

U.S. hopes that more of the 27 foreign hostages might be freed rose after the arrival of American journalist Charles Glass at a Beirut hotel after two months of captivity in the hands of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah group.

"The United States will not make concessions to terrorists, nor will we ask other countries to do so," Oakley said in what she described as a clear restatement of U.S. policy. "Making concessions only encourages additional acts of terrorism."

The deputy spokeswoman pointed out that Mr. Rafsanjani's remarks

"confirm what we have said all along. Iran has a great deal of influence over those holding the hostages in Lebanon."

"Iran should use this influence to secure the immediate and unconditional release of the hostages held in Lebanon, all of whom are innocent victims of terrorism."

Oakley emphasised that the United States position "has always been, knowing the complexities of the situation in Lebanon and the growth of lots of groups (there), that Iran should use its influence."

Oakley said that with the release of Mr. Glass — Americans were "renewing their call for all countries, all organisations, all people who would have any influence" to release the other hostages immediately.

The deputy spokeswoman told questioners that there was no inclination to open direct talks with Iran in an effort to bring about the release of the more than 20 Westerners, including eight Americans, who are being held hostage in Lebanon.

"I think that would be misreading our position on it," she said. "We have said before that talking

(Continued on page 4)

Senate endorses supplement to 1986 budget after heated debate

By Salameh B. Ne'matt and Rana Sabbagh
 Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Thursday endorsed by a majority vote a supplementary budget draft law passed earlier by the Lower House. The Senate endorsement came after a prolonged debate over the legality of the law that allowed the government to spend over JD 141 million beyond the general budget for 1986. The debate ended when Prime Minister Zaid Rifai pledged the government would not resort to such moves without Parliament's approval.

Addressing the fourth extraordinary Senate session in this term, Mr. Rifai said a large part of the items in the draft law did not represent spending done in 1986 but were "a rectification and adjustment of the constitutional

status and legality of the funds spent in previous years."

He said the excess expenditure was warranted by the need to improve the financial situation of some public share-holding companies and institutions to reflect positively on the economic situation in general.

"The government decided that these rectifications and adjustments are carried out all at once," Mr. Rifai told the Senate, "even if that inflated the figures of the budget supplement."

The prime minister said a large amount of the money spent went to local spending that "did not have a great negative effect on the balance of payments and the Kingdom's foreign currency reserves." Rather, he said, "it reflected positively on the value of gathered internal revenues." He did not elaborate.

Mr. Rifai said capital expendi-

ture in the supplementary budget amounted to JD 115.7 million, representing 81.8 per cent, while recurrent expenditures accounted for the remainder.

Replying to criticism by senators, Mr. Rifai said that "opinions and interpretations of some of our Constitution and legislation may differ, but there could be no quarrel over the aim, which is to serve our beloved country and its higher interests."

"To put an end to the debate over the legality of the draft law," the prime minister said, "I declare before you that, from now on, this government will not be issuing supplementary budgets until after obtaining, in advance, approval from your esteemed council." The government issued the draft law to legalise spending JD 141,399,000 which amounts to 15 per cent of the 1986 general

(Continued on page 4)

Eagleton likely to return to Syria next month

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Ambassador William Eagleton will probably return to Damascus next month to encourage Syria's continued pressure for the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon, according to U.S. officials.

The officials, quoted by Reuters, said no final decision had been taken on the timing of Mr. Eagleton's return to Damascus nine months after he was withdrawn in protest at alleged Syrian backing of "terrorism," but said that September was likely.

The U.S. government would not confirm publicly a decision the officials said had been taken before American journalist Charles Glass walked into a Beirut hotel on Tuesday, two months after he was kidnapped by a pro-Iranian group.

But State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley told reporters

there had been no serious change in the U.S. attitude to Syria. "I don't think you should assume there has been a major change," she said.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, described the decision to return Mr. Eagleton to his post as a minor step.

"It's just time for a small gesture," one official said. Like Oakley, they emphasised that Washington had maintained diplomatic relations with Syria, unlike Britain, in whose support the decision to withdraw Mr. Eagleton was taken after a British court implicated Syrian agents in an alleged attempt to bomb an Israeli airliner.

They said minor U.S. sanctions imposed then on Syria, including export and credit controls, remain in effect and no decision

(Continued on page 4)

Egypt restates rejection of Shamir's 'alternatives'

ALEXANDRIA (Agencies) — Egypt said Friday peace in the Middle East would only be achieved through an international conference and discounted new alternatives offered by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid was responding to a report from Bucharest on Thursday that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had offered the "alternatives" in talks with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

"We are aware of Shamir's opposition but our firm position is that such a conference would lead to direct negotiations (between Israel and the Arabs) to resolve the Palestine problem," Mr. Abdul Meguid told reporters.

He said the conference should be attended by all permanent members of the United Nations Security Council including the Soviet Union and all concerned

parties. Mr. Abdul Meguid insisted that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should select its own representatives for the proposed conference.

Mr. Shamir on Thursday ended three days of talks in Romania, the only East bloc country to have diplomatic relations with Israel after the 1967 Middle East war.

Mr. Shamir returned to Israel on Thursday and said Mr. Ceausescu gave him "food for thought" on Middle East peace efforts.

Mr. Shamir told reporters that he had some disagreements with Mr. Ceausescu, but that he still hoped for "a continuation of talks and contacts" towards peace in the region.

The Israeli leader refused to elaborate.

Reports from Bucharest indi-

(Continued on page 4)

Chad claims to have routed Libyan attack on Aouzou

N'DJAMENA (Agencies) — Chad claimed on Friday it had inflicted a fantastic rout on Libyan forces when it repulsed an attempt by Libya to recapture the disputed town of Aouzou two days ago.

The military high command, quoted by Chadian Radio, said some of Libya's crack troops took part in four successive but vain attempts to recapture Aouzou and fierce fighting raged for several hours.

A statement issued by the Chadian embassy in Paris said 405 Libyans were killed and 161 taken prisoner. It gave no figures for Chadian losses.

It said among those captured was Colonel Abdul Salam Arvi, second-in-command of Libyan military operations in Chad.

The fighting occurred when Libya launched ground and air assaults on Aouzou, which is in a disputed strip of territory on the border between the two countries.

It was Libya's second attempt in less than a week to recapture the town, seized by Chad on Aug. 8 after 14 years of Libyan occupation.

The Chadian military command said on Thursday 4,000 Libyan troops attacked the area in Wednesday's onslaught but

were beaten back and retreated in disarray.

Military sources in Paris confirmed there had been fierce fighting at Aouzou, an oasis with a peace-time population of 2,000.

The embassy statement said Chad shot down seven Libyan aircraft — three Soviet-made Mig-23 fighters, two combat helicopters, one Tupolev-22 bomber and a French-built Mirage fighter jet.

In Damascus, a Palestinian group said a Palestinian pilot was killed when his Libyan jet fighter was shot down in a dogfight over Chad.

The statement by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) named him as Lieutenant Colonel Mohammad Mahmoud Alqam.

It said he was killed last Wednesday while "defending the Libyan Arab revolution against American and French imperialism which supports Chad rulers." Libya has trained scores of Palestinian pilots and diplomats say they have become the backbone of the Libyan air force.

A spokesman for the front said Col. Alqam did not bail out when a missile hit his plane but tried to make a safe landing at his base.

Tokyo and Moscow trade charges over expulsions

TOKYO (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone on Friday denied that Japanese diplomat ordered out of the Soviet Union was involved in espionage and said he hoped the incident would not hurt Japan-Soviet relations.

In the first Soviet expulsion of a Japanese diplomat since World War II, the Soviet Union on Thursday accused Nobuhiko Takeshima, a naval attaché, of espionage and ordered him out of the country.

Japanese businessman, Takeo Otani, deputy head of the Moscow office of Mitsubishi Corp., also was accused of espionage and ordered to leave the country.

Following the Soviet announcement, Japan said it would expel a Soviet trade representative stationed in Tokyo. It claimed the move was not retaliatory.

Soviet media, responding Friday to Tokyo's decision to deport the Soviet trade official, accused Japan of launching a spy scare campaign with the backing of some U.S. leaders.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry said Thursday the expelled diplomat engaged in espionage during a visit to the Black Sea resort of Odessa, while the businessman

tried to obtain commercial secrets and engaged in illegal speculation.

Japan, in ordering Soviet trade official Yuri G. Pokrovsky to leave the country, said he ignored police requests to answer questions about alleged Soviet purchases of information stolen from a Japanese aircraft maker.

The official Soviet news agency TASS said Friday that Japan had launched a "spy scare campaign" aimed at "sowing in human minds disbelief in the sincerity of the Soviet Union's policy, the sincerity of its striving for peace."

"One has to speak of espionage, but not the invented espionage in Japan — instead, the real espionage in the Soviet Union," TASS said.

Mr. Nakasone told reporters on Friday that "I've heard there is no basis to the charges made (by the Soviets) against the defence attaché."

Later, calling the incident "truly regrettable," he told a parliamentary session that it had "poured cold water over Japan-Soviet relations."

"I hope that this kind of thing will not happen again. I hope this event will not have a negative effect on friendly relations between the two nations," he said.

**THE NEAR EAST EQUIPMENT CO.
 AND
 PIRELLI TYRE MANUFACTURERS
 WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND THEIR BEST
 WISHES FOR SUCCESS TO
 HANI BISHARAT
 ON HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE 1000 LAKES
 RALLY IN FINLAND.**

The 1000 Lakes Rally in Jyväskylä, Finland is one of the most famous and challenging courses known to the world of rallying. It takes place annually and covers a total distance of 1,701.28 km including 3 tarmac and several off-road stages. The participation of Mr. Hani Bisharat was made possible through support from his friends and family. Mr. Bisharat was able to rent a Group N Audi 90 Quattro together with a service team for the event. Being the Jordanian champion, Mr. Bisharat was able to get a sponsorship from Pirelli through the help of their local agent in Amman. As a tyre manufacturer, Pirelli Corp. constantly takes part in such events. Lately, Pirelli has shown great interest in the Middle East market as a whole and specifically Jordan, which is becoming known worldwide for its motor sports activities. The Italian based company is presently in the process of introducing its products in Jordan in an organised and professional manner. "Within the coming few years," says Mr. Galeazzi, of Pirelli, "our goal is to become part of the tyre market in Jordan as a whole, and to prove the capability of our tyres on the road, off-the-road and in the motor sport field."

Escort convoy stalled in mid-Gulf

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The third convoy of reflagged Kuwaiti tankers and U.S. warships remained stalled in the central waters of the Gulf on Friday, apparently because of strong winds and high waves, shipping sources said.

Although visibility had improved to nearly five kilometres, winds gusting to 20 knots an hour generated two metre waves, and the sources told AP this would make helicopter mine-hunting extremely difficult.

The approximately 320 kilometre still between the convoy and its Kuwait destination are regarded as the most dangerous of the 880-kilometre voyage through the Gulf.

Iran, in a surprise statement reported by Tehran Radio, acknowledged it was responsible for laying the mines that plagued earlier convoys and other shipping in the Gulf and adjoining waters in recent weeks.

Shipping sources in the southern Gulf emirate of Fujairah said that several more mines have been spotted in waters of the ship anchorage some 50 kilometres south of the Strait of Hormuz, strategic gateway to the Gulf.

Bu Fujairah coast guard officials denied that. One of the officials reached by telephone said that guard helicopters and patrol boats were combing the waters regularly and it was all clear.

"There are no more mines

there, the waters are cleaner than before," said the official who refused to be named.

In Washington, Pentagon officials denied an Iranian claim on Friday that a U.S. warship escorting reflagged Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf had hit a mine recently.

"There's no truth to it," said an official who asked not to be named.

Iranian Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, quoting intelligence sources, told a prayer meeting in Tehran earlier Friday, "One of their (United States) ships hit a mine but they covered it up." He gave no other details.

The latest convoy was anchored at almost the same spot where a previous convoy was halted for 36 hours earlier this month by a mines scare.

That was before the United States rushed the helicopters to the Gulf aboard the 11,000-tonne helicopter carrier Guadacanal.

The helicopters, Sikorsky Sea Stallions, led the way for the six-ship convoy from the Strait of Hormuz to the midpoint of its voyage to Kuwait.

Four Kuwaiti tankers, now loaded with gas, oil and refined

products, have been waiting for a week at Kuwait for orders to sail, again under U.S. protection.

Regional shipping sources expected the warships to drop off the empty tankers at Kuwait and escort the loaded ones on the return trip down the waterway.

Washington said the Guadacanal had left the inbound convoy and regional shipping sources said it had moved north of Bahrain to sweep the sear lanes to Kuwait.

The convoy was expected to keep as far as possible from the Iranian coast, but the outbound convoy would have to sail closer to Iran because its loaded tankers require deeper water.

Iran, in a Tehran Radio dispatch monitored in London Thursday night, admitted sowing mines "to defend our coastlines in the Gulf and that the action was justified by the stepped-up

U.S. military presence in the region.

A lower-level official, Kamal Kharazi, the supervisor of Iran's war information headquarters, acknowledged that Iran laid the mines. Earlier, the Iranians had blamed the United States.

"It is quite natural for us to use such means to block avenues of approach to our facilities," Mr. Kharazi said but he added that Iran would not plant mines in international waters.

Foreign forces in the Gulf threatening Iran's ports and installations justified Iran's "defensive" mining, Mr. Kharazi added. The U.S. State Department said that a Yugoslav cargo ship and a Liberian chemical tanker in the Gulf of Oman in the last two days. Gulf shipping sources said Iranian vessels fired the shots.

2 wounded in SLA raid

TYRE (Agencies) — Two women were wounded Friday when Israeli-backed militiamen opened fire on their home in a South Lebanese village in Israel's self-designated "security zone," police said.

They said a patrol of 10 militiamen of the Israeli-supported South Lebanon Army (SLA) rolled into the village of Srobbine 11 kilometres north of the Lebanese-Israeli border and fired

"randomly" at 9:30 a.m.

Srobbine, 22 kilometres south of the port city of Tyre, is within a zone of operations of Nepalese troops of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Police said a 65-year-old woman and her daughter, 19, were wounded by the SLA gunfire as they were having breakfast at their home in Srobbine.

Israel delays decision on Lavi jet

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli leaders Friday once again delayed a decision on whether to drop Israel's prestige but costly Lavi fighter plane project, officials said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres agreed to ask the divided cabinet to decide the Lavi's fate on Aug. 30 rather than at its meeting this Sunday, aides to Mr. Peres said.

"During this week, they hope to find some sort of formula that will have a broader majority in the cabinet," an aide said. The cabinet failed in its seventh attempt last week to decide.

U.S. Ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering met Mr. Shamir but a U.S. embassy spokesman refused to confirm or deny a state radio report he once again urged Israel to scrap the U.S.-financed warplane.

Washington, which will give \$3 billion in aid this year, has urged Israel to invest in a less costly U.S. alternative, such as F-16 fighters. Israel has invested \$1.5 billion in the fighter, most of it U.S. aid.

Opinion polls show most Israelis favour continuing the project undertaken by the cabinet in 1980.

In an interview from Washington, U.S. representative Larry Smith told Israel Radio he believed the Pentagon was pressuring Israel to drop the plane because of the opposition of American defence contractors.

Dutch ready to send minesweepers to Gulf

THE HAGUE (Agencies) — The Netherlands would be prepared to send minesweepers to the Gulf even without a consensus in support of such a move by the seven-nation Western European Union (WEU), a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said Friday.

"We do not need consensus, but obviously would prefer as much support as possible," she said.

Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek announced late Thursday his country would be willing in principle to send minesweepers to the Gulf.

The surprise announcement followed a meeting of top civil servants of the WEU, a defence and foreign affairs oriented political body made up of France, Britain, Italy, West Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg and The Netherlands.

The meeting strongly condemned any actions that restricted freedom of navigation in the Gulf.

In the past the Dutch have insisted they would only be prepared to send minesweepers to the Gulf as part of a United Nations force, but on Thursday Mr. Van Den Broek said they were now willing to consider being part of a European force.

"For political and logistical reasons we feel the chances of an early U.N. solution are fading, and that is why we are now turning to a European forum," he said.

Foreign diplomats canvassed by Reuters Friday morning would not be drawn on the matter,

noting that their own governments had not yet had enough time to discuss it.

The Dutch Foreign Ministry would not comment on how it expected the other WEU members to react.

France and Britain already have forces of minesweepers on route to the Gulf, but Italy and West Germany have both said they would not send forces. Belgium has not committed itself, while Luxembourg has no navy.

On Thursday, Mr. Van Den Broek would not discuss the possibility of sending ships other than minesweepers to the Gulf, but did not rule out the possibility.

The Dutch cabinet was expected to discuss the matter at its meeting Friday, which is largely taken up with the 1988 budget.

Meanwhile top foreign affairs officials from the seven WEU countries Thursday stressed their support for a United Nations Security Council call for a ceasefire in the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

Speaking after a meeting in The Hague called by The Netherlands, the current WEU chairman, Dutch Director General of Political Affairs Henry Wijngaerts said the countries agreed to support all efforts aimed at achieving the immediate implementation of the ceasefire call.

"Europe's vital interests require that the freedom of navigation in the Gulf be assured at all times. The member states strongly condemned all actions contrary

to this principle," Mr. Wijngaerts said.

The meeting between senior Foreign and Defence Ministry civil servants from The Netherlands, Britain, France, Italy, West Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg stopped short of taking any tactical decisions.

"The WEU is purely a political body, not a military one," Mr. Wijngaerts said. "We do not have a single soldier at our disposal."

WEU Secretary Alfred Cahen said there was a full and frank exchange of views at the meeting, but there had been no pressure whatsoever from France or Britain for other countries to follow their example and send minesweepers to the war-torn Gulf.

Earlier this week prospects of a WEU meeting seemed remote after remarks by British Foreign Office Minister David Mellor criticising European countries which imported Gulf oil but refused to send minesweepers to help keep the waterway clear.

Both Mr. Wijngaerts and Mr. Cahen said the meeting had been a great success and further consultations had been agreed. No full ministerial meeting has been called as a result of Thursday's talks.

The next full WEU meeting is scheduled for Oct. 26 and 27 in The Hague.

Iran on Thursday accused Britain of using mine sweeping as a pretext to drag its West European partners into a Gulf "powder keg" that could later destroy them.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PLO official killed in Sidon

SIDON (AP) — A Palestinian commando security official has been shot and killed by unidentified gunmen in this southern port city, Palestinian sources disclosed Thursday. Lt.-Col. Rasem Al Ghoul was killed in the Sidon region on Tuesday and there has been no due to the identity of the assassins or the motive behind the murder, one source said. The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Col.-Ghoul, 37, had long been a ranking official in Force-17, the main security apparatus of Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah guerrilla group. Force-17 had claimed responsibility for several operations in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Swedes release Karami murder suspect

STOCKHOLM (R) — A Swedish court has released without charges a 25-year-old Lebanese army deserter who had been suspected by Lebanon of murdering Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The district court in Stockholm freed former aircraft technician Elie Sleibi after hearing the Lebanese authorities had earlier this week dropped all charges due to lack of evidence. Sleibi was arrested by Swedish police on Aug. 1 at Lebanon's request. The Justice Ministry there said it suspected the Christian army private of planting the bomb which ripped through Karami's helicopter on June 1. Another murder suspect, Ibrahim Dagher, was freed in Beirut on Monday. Sleibi worked at the Adma Air Base in Falangist enclave outside Beirut from where Karami's helicopter had taken off on the day of the assassination.

2 Arabs escape detention in Cyprus

LARNACA, Cyprus (R) — Two Arab teenagers who claim to be Palestinian have escaped from prison while awaiting deportation, police sources said Friday. Ismael Adnan Shker, 16, and George Tony Hanna, 17, were arrested in Cyprus last month for entering the island illegally in a stolen yacht. Police said later they were also responsible for a restaurant break-in and the theft of cigarettes and food. Both were given a three-year suspended sentence by a Larnaca court and held pending a decision on their deportation. The two claimed to have been living in a camp in the Lebanese town of Tripoli before stealing the yacht from Syria, the sources said. The yacht has been taken back to Syria by its owner.

Kurdish rebels kill 5 in Turkey

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey (R) — Kurdish rebels killed five civilians at a village in south east Turkey Thursday night as troops still hunted guerrillas who killed 25 on Tuesday, officials said Friday. They said the latest killings were at Dargecit town in Mardin province. The troops are hunting guerrillas who killed 25 people on Tuesday night at the village of Kilickaya, in neighbouring Sirte province just across the border from Dargecit. The officials blamed the attacks on the Workers Party of Kurdistan, the illegal group seeking autonomy for Turkey's estimated eight million Kurds.

Body of U.S. serviceman found in Gulf

WASHINGTON (R) — The body of one of three U.S. servicemen missing since a July 30 crash of a navy Sea-King helicopter in the Gulf has been recovered, the Pentagon has said. The Pentagon identified the body as that of Omar Dupari of St. Croix, Virgin Islands. His body was found Tuesday along with debris from the helicopter in which four men were killed when it crashed near the La Salle, command vessel of the naval force deployed to escort Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf. A Pentagon spokesman said the search is continuing for the remaining bodies. The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

Khamenei to attend U.N. session

UNITED NATIONS (R) — President Ali Khamenei of Iran will attend the U.N. General Assembly next month, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said. Diplomatic sources said they assumed Mr. Khamenei would address the 159-nation body sometime after Sept. 21, when its foreign policy debate begins. Heads of state or foreign ministers represent their governments at that time. Mr. Perez de Cuellar disclosed Mr. Khamenei's decision after he met Security Council members, who he said gave him guidance for his efforts to halt the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Hungary, Israel discuss ties

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel and Hungary are negotiating the resumption of diplomatic ties, but no final agreement has been reached on the nature of future relations, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday. One issue under discussion is the establishment of interest sections, the lowest level of diplomatic relations, said ministry spokesman Ehud Gol.

Mzali fears 'reprisals'

GENEVA (R) — Former Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, who fled his country last year, said in an interview published Friday that he feared reprisals by President Habib Bourguiba.

"I claim to still serve my country by speaking out," the newspaper Journal De Geneve quoted him as saying. "I must therefore be silenced. If tomorrow Bourguiba's secret agents assassinate me, don't be surprised."

On Monday the Swiss Justice Ministry issued a warrant for Mr. Mzali to face extradition proceedings. Mr. Mzali said he was surprised by this.

Legal sources said that if a hearing were held he could argue that he was being persecuted for political reasons.

The Journal De Geneve said he was interviewed by telephone from an undisclosed location outside Switzerland.

Mr. Mzali has lived in Switzerland and France since fleeing Tunisia secretly last year. The French Foreign Ministry said on Monday it had told him to keep a low profile if he stayed in France. He had been prime minister since 1980 and was heir apparent to Mr. Bourguiba until his fall from favour.

He had been sentenced in absentia to 15 years' hard labour on charges including squandering public funds.

The paper said that Mr. Mzali, asked if he felt hunted, replied: "Of course. My son and son-in-law are in prison and my grandchildren's passports have been taken away."

Asked about his prison sentence, he said: "I dared to open my mouth and say the king was naked, that Bourguiba was making mistakes."

What separates us is my faith in consensus, democracy and pluralism."

Thursday's demonstration, which began just at the hour that business offices were closing, was broken up after about 10 minutes and caused a brief panic among passersby.

Kollek appeals for calm in Jerusalem Sabbath war

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli mayor of Jerusalem Teddy Kollek appealed to religious leaders for calm Friday amid fears of fresh violence by ultra-orthodox Jews trying to stop secular Israelis staging film shows on the Jewish Sabbath.

Wall posters in West Jerusalem's ultra-orthodox neighbourhood of Mea Shearim urged residents to demonstrate in force against the desecration of the Sabbath by four cinemas showing movies on Friday nights.

The dispute is the latest in a series of religious-secular clashes which have led some non-religious Jews to forsake the austere Holy City and move to easy-going Tel Aviv, a 45-minute drive away.

In Jerusalem, restaurants, bars and entertainment houses close before the Sabbath begins at sundown on Friday. In Tel Aviv, they are crammed with weekend revellers.

"To our regret, there is tension in Jerusalem between Jews, and for this we must be sorry from the depth of our hearts," said Kollek, who has laboured for 20 years to prevent religious-secular tensions from erupting into violence.

"Suddenly groups that have no responsibility for the city make out of this the major issue as if the (Biblical) temple were being destroyed," he complained.

Ultra-orthodox anger was fuelled by an incident Thursday night in which an 11-year-old orthodox youth said an assailant clipped off his earlocks in a Jerusalem street in an apparent anti-religious protest.

The most observant Jews are barred by religious law from cutting the fringes of their hair.

Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu compared the attack to Nazi actions against Jews in World War II. "In the death camps, things like this took place — not in the streets of the land of Israel," he said.

Kollek met leaders of the ultra-Orthodox Agudat Israel Party Friday but refused to order the cinemas closed and did not persuade them to call off planned protests, state radio said.

Roughly 25 per cent of Jerusalem's inhabitants are orthodox Jews but they enjoy disproportionate influence because of the city's religious significance.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77311-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:50	Programme Review
15:55	Moby Dick
16:20	Children's
16:50	Scientific programme for children
17:15	Little Princess
17:45	Documentary: Art
18:15	Local series
19:10	Message from Iraq
19:20	Local family programme
19:50	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:15	Seminar on local issues
22:15	Tomorrow's programme
22:30	Arabic series
23:10	News Summary in Arabic
23:18	Play comtd.
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Les stars de L'Inde (documentary)
19:00	News in French
19:15	French varieties
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Science World
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Together We Stand
21:00	Wild Flower
21:10	Saturday Variety Show
22:00	News in English
22:30	Feature film: "City Killer"
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz, AM & 99.0 KHz, FM & party on 95.0 KHz, SW Tel: 77411-19	
07:00	Morning Show
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Morning Show Contd.
11:00	The Guitar Greats
12:00	News Summary
12:30	38 years of American Top Ten Hits
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Pop Session
14:00	News Bulletin
14:15	Jordan Weekly
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Instrumental/Classical
17:00	Special Feature
17:30	Music
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Top Twenty
19:00	Newsdesk/Music
19:30	Date with a Star
BBC WORLD SERVICE	
639, 720, 1323 KHz	
07:00	Newsdesk 07:30 Here's Humphrey
07:45	Reflections 07:50 Financial News
08:00	World News 08:09 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30 Society Today
09:00	The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Meridian 10:00 World News
10:00	24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 From the Weeklies 10:45 Network UK
11:00	World News 11:09 Reflections
11:15	A July Show 12:00 World News
12:00	12:00 British Press Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News
12:45	Society Today 12:50 News Summary: Here's Humphrey 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 Power to the People 14:00 About Britain 14:15 Sportsweek 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 Music for the Sun King 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World News 16:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Network UK 16:45 Saturday Special 17:00 News Summary: Saturday Special 17:30 Saturday Special 18:00 Radio Newsworld 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00 World News 19:09 Continuity 19:15 Saturday Special 20:00 News Summary: Saturday Special 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Promenade Concert 23:00 World News 23:09 24 Hours: News Summary 23:30 Jazz for the Asking 24:00 News Summary: Persoona Grata 00:15 Music for a While 00:30 Power to the People 01:00 World News 02:30 Anything Goes
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Team sent to stop illegal building at Abu Nuseir

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Housing Corporation announced Friday that it has begun inspection tours of housing units at Abu Nuseir Housing Estate to collect information about building violations committed by residents.

Na'im Al Qudah, director of the Abu Nuseir Housing Estate, said that a corporation team is making sure that residents do not tamper with the general conditions of the buildings, such as constructing new windows, doors, or walls around the buildings.

Mr. Qudah said that the team has already removed some of the illegally constructed windows, and has issued warnings to the violators. He warned that legal procedures will be taken against those who persist in committing violations of the corporation's regulations which prohibit residents from building or constructing anything without proper authorization. Those residents

wishing to introduce changes inside of their units should obtain proper approval in advance.

Mr. Qudah urged the residents to cooperate with the Housing Corporation in planting trees around their units. So far 40,000 forest trees have been planted inside and around the housing estate by the corporation; in the coming two years, the corporation plans to plant trees in yards and to build pavements and roads between buildings, Mr. Qudah noted.

He noted that the lands which were left unused around the units would be turned into public gardens.

Abu Nuseir Housing Estate has 3,500 units mostly distributed to government employees. The units were built on half the land owned by the corporation, according to the director general, Sba'iq Zawaideh. The other half, he said, will be sold to the public and Jordanian expatriates.

Spa complex to open to public

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first phase of the Zarqa Ma'in Spa Complex, 38 kilometres south of Amman, will be opened to the public early next month, but is not expected to become fully operational until November, according to Mr. Fayez Abul Ghanam, director general of the spa.

Mr. Abul Ghanam was speaking to reporters and representatives of tourist and travel offices in Jordan during a trip to the spa. The project has entailed building a 150-room hotel with 250 beds, installing therapeutic facilities under the supervision of specialists, swimming pools with mineral water, playgrounds, a shopping centre, three restaurants and a camping site that can accommodate 250 people.

Mr. Abul Ghanam said. The project, which cost JD 13 million, has 60 natural hot springs containing minerals beneficial for patients suffering from rheumatism, sinusitis, arthritis and asthma.

The director general said that the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) is currently making preparations for linking the spa complex with the microwave telephone network. The Ministry of Public Works has opened an 18-kilometre road linking the complex with Madaba; four additional kilometres of road will be opened in the coming two months.

Last year, Belgium granted Jordan a JD 2.5 million loan to help it finance the complex.



Nawaf Saoud Al Qadi being sworn in as the new Lower House of Parliament deputy from the northern Badia region (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Qadi sworn in as new Badia deputy

AMMAN (J.T.) — The newly-elected northern Badia region deputy was sworn in Thursday, during one of the shortest Lower House of Parliament sessions of the summer.

Wearing his traditional bedouin clothes, Mr. Nawaf Saoud Al Qadi said before a full-member House: "I swear in the name of God the Great to be sincere to the King, to preserve the Constitution, to serve the nation and to carry out, with all honesty, all duties given to me."

House Speaker Akel Al Fayez, who presided over the House's

three-minute session, wished Mr. Qadi the best of luck and success in "serving his nation."

Mr. Qadi won the majority of votes in a by-election held last Saturday, to fill the northern Badia seat in the House, which fell vacant by the death of his father, Sheikh Saoud Al Qadi, earlier this year. Mr. Qadi secured 3,929 votes out of the total 8,475 electorate which turned out at the polling centres.

According to official statistics, only 54 per cent of the region's total 15,812 eligible voters went to the polls last Saturday.

UNRWA head ends tour of Jordan

Giacomelli highlights King's efforts to encourage more funding

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The commissioner-general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), Giorgio Giacomelli, concluded a five-day visit to Jordan Friday and then left for Vienna.

During the visit, the UNRWA chief met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai to review UNRWA's services to the refugees and held talks with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin. He also toured refugee camps in the country.

Mr. Giacomelli summed up his visit with a press conference held Friday at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel in which he pledged that the agency will double its efforts to raise funds for financing its operations.

UNRWA depends on its direct contacts with donor countries in order to ensure sufficient funds for maintaining its relief, educational and health services to the refugees in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the occupied land, Mr. Giacomelli said. Any delay in providing financial contributions tends to adversely affect the agency's projects and relief programmes, he noted.

Mr. Giacomelli said that UNRWA needs at least \$15 million monthly to ensure 85 per cent to cover salaries and immediate expenses.

Referring to his visit to Jordan, Mr. Giacomelli said that it was designed to follow up talks with Jordanian officials on UNRWA's projects and programmes in the refugee camps. "I was encouraged by the attitude of the Jordanian government, which pledged complete backing for UNRWA's operations and projects, and I

was honoured by an audience with His Majesty King Hussein during the visit," Mr. Giacomelli noted.

He described the outcome of the visit as very positive and encouraging and said that it enhanced Jordanian-UNRWA cooperation in providing services to the refugees.

Over the past years, UNRWA has been encountering numerous difficulties in raising sufficient funds, and 1985 was perhaps the worst year in this respect, prompting the agency to revise its programmes, Mr. Giacomelli pointed out.

He said that UNRWA introduced austerity measures and benefited from a favourable international exchange rates, which helped to keep the agency's operations running.

He noted that UNRWA also benefited from King Hussein's direct intervention with the donor nations which resulted in further contributions. For example, the King's intervention produced an offer of an additional \$8 million from the United States in support of UNRWA operations.

UNRWA has launched a world-wide information campaign parallel to its offensive aimed at raising contributions and maintaining essential services for the coming three years.

Mr. Giacomelli said UNRWA has collected sufficient funds to carry out programmes for the coming year, but it still encour-

ters difficulty in obtaining more money from the donor nations, some of which have actually informed UNRWA of their intentions to reduce their contributions. "So far nothing of this has happened, but it should happen, the agency will be in trouble," Mr. Giacomelli noted.

In the past years, UNRWA was forced to put off many of its construction projects for new schools and medical clinics due to a lack of funds.

The UNRWA chief announced that in the coming few days a tender will be announced for selecting a private organisation that can provide health services to UNRWA employees.

Referring to the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territory, Mr. Giacomelli said that UNRWA was maintaining its services in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, but that it was encountering many difficulties there.

Mr. Giacomelli, accompanied by UNRWA and government officials, Thursday toured Marka (Hitin), Baqaa, and Jerash refugee camps.

In Marka camp, he inspected the new UNRWA clinic, under construction with a Canadian special contribution of \$270,000, according to an UNRWA press release.

In Baqaa camp, Mr. Giacomelli inspected the two boys' and girls' schools which were donated by Shaikh Mohammad and Ibrahim Al Zaben earlier this year and last year (cost about \$1 million). Mr. Giacomelli also visited the new UNRWA clinic in Baqaa camp which has been constructed with a Canadian contribution of \$208,000, the press release said.

Jerash camp, Mr. Giacomelli saw the new UNRWA boys' school which is being constructed with a special contribution of \$500,000 from the Japanese government, the disabled centre, and the location of a new health centre which will be constructed with a contribution of \$275,000 from the Danish Refugee Council.

Mr. Giacomelli also met with refugee representatives who expressed their deep appreciation for the strenuous efforts exerted by the commissioner-general for the benefit of the refugees and for the agency's programmes. The commissioner-general took note of the requests made by the refugee representatives for improvements in the services and assured the refugees that the agency would be making special efforts to secure funds for its construction projects, the press release noted.

In an interview with Reuters news agency, Mr. Giacomelli said that the United Nations can take only limited supplies into Lebanon's Palestinian refugee camp because Shi'ite Amal militiamen are maintaining a partial siege.

Mr. Giacomelli told Reuters that Beirut's Shatila camp had been 80-90 per cent destroyed, "when you see it, it is like a city after the Second World War, or Hiroshima after the bomb," he added.

Mr. Giacomelli said he had budgeted \$20 million for emergency aid and received \$7 million from Italy and \$3 million from the United States, with substantial contributions in both cash and kind from the European Community, Canada, the Scandinavian countries and others.

Senate endorses institute to administer medical services

By Rana Sabbagh and

Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) endorsed a 1987 law for establishing a national institute responsible for unifying all parties providing medical treatment services in Jordan, despite a last minute protest to the Senate Legal Committee by a number of local doctors over the institute's functions.

According to the law, which was approved by the Senate Thursday, the institute will offer medical treatment services to citizens once it has unified all civil and military parties who are presently offering these facilities.

In addition to providing the existing medical services offered to members and families of the civil and military services, the institute will cater for almost a million private sector employees and their families, who will join the scheme in line with regulations to be drawn up later.

Under the law, the institute will derive its revenues from services it offers, from allocations to the institute made by the government in each fiscal budget, from health insurance funds, and from private loans and donations approved by the Cabinet.

The Senate approved the legislation without introducing any amendments to a number of its articles, thus rejecting a last minute protest by a number of the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) doctors.

In a memorandum they sent to the Senate Legal Committee last Monday, the JMA group charged that "privatising public health services was a dangerous step."

The scheme means a step "towards removing subsidised health services."

This action, the JMA group

said, "implies the government will not be responsible for offering free of charge medical services, or services at nominal charges, to around 60 per cent of Jordan's citizens," who are presently treated through the Health Ministry.

According to the law, the Health Ministry will only be concerned with offering preventive medicine services and drawing up all policies related to them. In turn, the institute will offer citizens clinical, laboratory, and X-ray diagnosis, regular and specialised medical care, hospital accommodations and surgery, including delivery operations.

The institute, said the JMA note, will lessen the chances for health development in Jordan and for reaching the target of "health for all," which needs a national strategy for upgrading the primary health services.

According to the law, the administration of all hospitals run by the Health Ministry, the Royal Medical Services and Jordan's two university hospitals, excluding the Army's field hospitals, will be transferred to the institute.

Reservations made by the JMA group in the memorandum were similar in nature to comments made by a number of Lower House of Parliament members when they endorsed the law on July 29.

The two parties expressed their concern that the project might focus more on making profits rather than health services.

The fact that the law gave the institute an autonomous financial and administrative status implies denying Parliament the right to monitor its budget and internal characters, the JMA letter charged. Hence, Parliament cannot monitor the scheme's performance to ensure that the rights of both

citizens and hospital employees are protected.

The JMA group demanded the postponement of the scheme for more studies to determine the responsibilities and authorities to be entrusted to the institute.

According to the legislation, a nine-member board of directors, to be chaired by the prime minister with the commander-in-chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces as the deputy chairman, will be responsible for developing the institute's policies. The board's decisions will be implemented by the institute's director general.

The remaining members of board will be the health minister, the Army's chief-of-staff, presidents of the University of Jordan and Jordan's University of Science and Technology, the institute's director general, and two Cabinet-appointed members.

The board's responsibilities will mainly be: to outline the institute's general policies and programmes, to set the prices for treatment, to draft the body's internal regulations, to endorse the agency's annual budget and refer it to the Prime Ministry for approval, and to conduct financial and loan agreements with local and international parties.

Referring to a previously announced Cabinet policy which called for decreasing government financial support for government agencies, the group of JMA doctors expressed fear that citizens, to benefit from the institute, would have to pay more money for the services due to the future implications of the Cabinet's move.

"The current economic situation prevailing in Jordan makes it intolerable for any more burdens to be placed on the public, especially when one of the basic public services is at stake," said the letter.

The JMA group further

charged that article five in the law concerning the institute's duties was void of any item which "enforces the government's commitment for offering health services and care to the citizens in general and the underprivileged Jordanians in particular, neglecting therefore, the people's basic human and constitutional rights."

Some of the items in article five provide that the institute will be responsible for setting up, buying and leasing hospitals, establishing laboratories and centres needed for medical research, cooperating with private sector doctors and hospitals in areas related to the institute's specialised needs, and putting the institute's capabilities in the service of medical education and training.

The memorandum cautioned that the institute's financial and manpower capabilities would be channelled towards improving medical technology and equipment at the expenses of primary and preventive health care. This would eventually reflect negatively on the "quality and quantity" of services offered to the citizens.

Although the law provides for the institute to have its own cadre of employees, doctors and nurses, it gave the prime minister the right to commission the transfer to the institute of any civil or military personnel working for the Ministry of Health, the Royal Medical Services and the university hospitals.

There is no definite date set for the institute's establishment since a number of steps have to be taken, including the issuance of a Royal Decree validating the legislation.

The entire scheme is scheduled to be developed over stages as was revealed by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai during the Lower House session of July 29.

"The institute would start operating gradually. It would start by managing a limited number of civil and military hospitals and then expand over stages," Mr. Rifai said in response to questions raised by a number of deputies.

Observers who have followed the institute's progress interpreted the prime minister's comments on the subject as "leaving the door open" for possible changes and amendments to the law and to the institute's charter to "contain all controversies" which could be created by the project.

Thursday's session also endorsed a 1987 draft law on Jordanian universities.

The law on higher education organises the prerogatives of the Higher Education Council, the Ministry of Higher Education and the university's president.

Higher education analysts said the law's issuance brought nothing new in terms of organising the universities' administrative and financial status.

They said it was drafted to allow for the future establishment of any public or private university in the Kingdom.

Higher Education Minister Nassereddine Al Assad was quoted as saying last week that the government "will welcome any initiatives taken by the private sector to set up a university in Jordan."

At present, there are four government-run universities in Jordan. They are the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, Jordan's University of Science and Technology, and Mu'ta University.

Two other laws for the Audit Bureau and the Higher Council for Sciences and Technology were approved by the Senate Thursday.



Smoke billows from Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem after an arson attempt Aug. 21, 1969, which damaged a large part of one of the holiest Islamic shrines in the world.

Al Aqsa Mosque burning remembered

AMMAN (J.T.) — Friday, Aug. 21, marked the 17th anniversary of an arson attempt at Al Aqsa Mosque in Arab Jerusalem.

The attempt was regarded by the Islamic World as a crime committed by Zionists against the holy shrine and a further manifestation of Israel's policy designed to demolish the mosque and other religious places in the

occupied Arab territory.

The Arab League last year announced that Aug. 21 is to be regarded in the Arab World as Al Aqsa Day in a show of solidarity which the holy shrine and the Arab people living under Israeli rule.

In response, the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs issued a statement in which it said that

the burning of the mosque was not the first Zionist attempt aimed at Judaizing the holy city. Rather, it was one event in the long line of actions which illustrate Israel's expansionist designs.

The burning of the mosque was an attempt by the Zionist leaders to obliterate Islamic cultural and holy sites in the occupied land. The statement added.

Egypt's Red Crescent head meets Jordanian counterpart

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary General of the Egyptian Red Crescent Society Yabha Darwish held talks in Amman Thursday with President of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Qoura.

They discussed issues which concern the Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in the Arab World. They agreed to sign a protocol on promoting coopera-

tion between the Red Crescent societies in Jordan and Egypt and to exchange their expertise.

Mr. Darwish, leading an Egyptian delegation, earlier visited the Madaba branch of the JNRCS and met with its officials to review their activities in health care and humanitarian-related problems. The delegation later called at the JNRCS branch in Salt for a similar visit.

Jordanian student delegation received in West Germany

BONN (Petra) — Jordan's ambassador in Bonn, Sharif Fawaz Sharif, received here Thursday a delegation of Jordanian students currently on a visit to the Federal Republic of Germany.

During the meeting, Mr. Sharif stressed the importance of reciprocal visits by youth delegations.

The visit is in response to a visit to Jordan last April by a student delegation from a school in Bielefeld in West Germany.

The students are also scheduled to visit the city of Aachen where they will tour the municipality and visit the Arab-German society. After that, the group will visit a number of other German cities.

The 17-member student delegation visited the Arab League office in Bonn and the Bundes-tag. They also visited the house

Syrian officials view Jordanian products at fair

DAMASCUS (J.T.) — Jordan's pavilion at the Damascus International Fair was visited Thursday by Syria's Prime Minister Abdul Ra'ouf Al Kasbi.

Accompanied by Mohammad Al Imadi, Syria's minister of economy and trade and Ali Tarabulsi, minister of industry, the prime minister toured the pavilion and inspected items on display there.

Bassam Kasasbeh, director of the pavilion, briefed the visitors on the products displayed by 183 Jordanian institutions and industries.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Jordan's ambassador to Syria, Ali Khreis, and Hamdi Tabba, president of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, welcomed the Syrian prime minister and accompanied him on the tour of the pavilion.

There are 34 more Jordanian companies participating this year than last year, Mr. Kasasbeh pointed out.

Arab countries discuss drug trafficking issue

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan, along with 15 Arab countries, is taking part in a three-day meeting for directors of anti-narcotics departments in the Arab World which began here Friday.

Participants are discussing the latest developments in combating international narcotics trafficking, and ways for Arab countries to cooperate.

Also being discussed is the problem of drug addiction in the region, and measures to combat it.

During the meeting, participants will also review the implementation of the Arab anti-narcotics strategy approved by the Council of Arab Interior Ministers during a meeting in 1986.

Director of the Anti-narcotics

Department, Colonel Hasbun Al Qaisi, who is representing Jordan at the meeting, said that he will submit a working paper on Jordan's role in combating narcotics at the domestic, Arab, and international levels.

He pointed out that, during the past eight months of this year, Jordan succeeded in seizing a total of 2,309 kilograms of drugs in 71 smuggling cases. Ninety per cent of these drugs were being smuggled via Jordanian territories to other countries.

Jordan, Col. Qaisi added, does not suffer from a serious drug abuse problem, but due to its central location between drug producing and consuming countries, it has become an important passageway for drug trade.

Countries offer 980 seats for Jordanians

AMMAN (J.T.) — Greece, Romania, Bulgaria and Egypt have made available 980 positions for Jordanian students at their universities for the coming academic year. The openings are distributed as follows: Romania 500 seats, Greece 100 seats, Egypt 300 seats and Bulgaria 80 seats.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Action can't be put off

AN extraordinary Arab foreign ministers meeting is expected to be held in Tunis in a few days to discuss the latest developments in the Gulf region. The meeting had been postponed for several days to allow for gathering the greater number of Arab foreign ministers for the meeting. It was noted that efforts were going ahead in the past few days to end differences among Arab states, but the attempts have not been successful enough and the Arab League is in need of more time and effort to ensure an opportune climate for the coming meeting. Frankly speaking, there must be a convenient atmosphere for the up-coming meeting to ensure its success and unless harmony is found the meeting could be put off again. The Arab League does not want the coming parley to serve as a forum for Arabs to air their differences and deepen their divisions and disputes. The Arab countries need a meeting at which they hope to remove the last obstacles that impede their joint action without which they cannot confront the challenges that threaten their destiny. The Gulf region is currently witnessing serious and dangerous development while the occupied Arab lands continue to witness increasing Israeli hostile measures against the Arab population. It is thus clear that our common enemies are planning to swallow up more of Arab land; and unless consensus is reached by the Arab leaders on joint steps they would not be able to deter the enemies and protect their own interests.

Al Dustour: Israel quietly pursues its goals

TODAY marks the 18th anniversary of the burning of the Al Aqsa Mosque in Arab Jerusalem. The anniversary comes at a time when the holy places in Jerusalem are still captive, and its people are still under the yoke of occupation, while the Israelis continue to pose threats to the holy places without any regard to international laws. The anniversary comes while the Arab and Islamic nations are still dormant, unable to lift a finger in the face of Israel's practices and defend Arab and Islamic rights. Over the years, and due to lack of action on the part of the Arabs and Muslims, the Israelis have been able to develop their aggressive techniques, posing even more threats to the Aqsa Mosque and other holy shrines. The Arab and Muslim people still witness Israel's expansionist plans being implemented in their region and in their land and also Israel's total disregard to peace initiatives. The Israelis who have rejected peace settlements with the Arabs are still hoping to swallow up more lands and force their inhabitants to leave their lands and homes because they want a land without people and without holy places.

Sawt Al Shaab: Trouble suits Israel

ISRAEL'S Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir spoke at a press conference in Bucharest reiterating the Jewish state's rejection of the idea of an international peace conference to find a lasting solution for the Middle East problem. His words did not take anybody by surprise because Israel aims at perpetuating its occupation of Arab land and therefore refuses any peace bids. Shamir's words clearly manifest the great danger awaiting the Middle East due to Israel's conspiracy against peace and its aim of perpetuating conflict in our region and maintaining a whirlpool of bloodshed. The Arabs for their part have opened the door wide for peace and are clinging fast to it hoping that it is the most proper solution for the Middle East problems. But the Arabs are now confronted with an intransigent position in Israel which has closed all doors for peace and rejected all efforts leading to a permanent settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Israel's position is being backed by the United States which does not see any possibility for breaking the current deadlock in diplomatic efforts towards convening the international conference. Israel and the United States are therefore intent on maintaining a troubled Middle East which suits their purpose and serves their own interests.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: No use trying with Israel

ROMANIAN President Nicolae Ceausescu has failed to persuade Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to agree to an international Middle East peace conference. But this result had been expected and the negative stand of the Israeli government vis-a-vis the proposed conference was taken into consideration in Bucharest. The failure is not due to Romania's inability to present the case in a proper manner but due to Israel's intransigent stand and its determination to do all it can to hold on to Arab lands occupied since 1967. Shamir has revealed Israel's policy clearly when he said frankly that he rejects the conference because it would lead to forcing Israel into returning the occupied territory to the Arabs. Israel wants to maintain its occupation of these territories and for this reason it continues to lay obstacles in the path of the proposed conference. Israeli leaders have also been adamant with regard to the participation of the Soviet Union in any conference to resolve the issue and continue to reject any participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The rejection of the conference reflects Israel's determination to maintain its occupation of Arab land. In the light of Shamir's open stand, the Arab countries should stop seeking means of persuading Israel to accept the idea of the proposed conference. Israel might accept the idea of a conference only if the Arabs declared in advance that they have no right to their occupied territory in Palestine. But once Israel finds that the Arabs are capable of regaining their lands by themselves, it would no doubt declare its readiness to sit with them for peace negotiations and give them back their usurped territory.

Al Dustour: Iran's evasive action

ONE whole month has elapsed following the adoption of a U.N. Security Council Resolution demanding an end to the conflict in the Gulf, but not one step was taken to stop the war or bring it nearer to an expected end. Despite the ongoing consultations among various nations and the general and unanimous consensus among world countries on the need for stopping the war and ending bloodshed, the main objective still seems out of reach, largely due to Iran's intransigence and also the lack of seriousness on the part of major powers in implementing the council's resolution. Iran is currently resorting to manoeuvres and planting mines in the Gulf waters with the hope of achieving a partial ceasefire which can not end the conflict. Its rulers continue to issue threats to Arab Gulf states, impede international shipping in the waterway and adamantly refuse to stop the war with Iraq. They are resorting to manoeuvres with the hope of making the world forget the council resolution and escaping sanctions, which it entails. One month after the issuing of the resolution has elapsed and the Gulf area is witnessing an escalation of tension and a stepping up of war activity. During this past month, the major powers have succeeded in stationing their naval forces in the Gulf area, thus bringing the Gulf conflict nearer to an international crisis.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

Religion and development

By Kamel Abu Jaber

WHEN people are in trouble, in the midst of great changes and uncertainty, with the future bleak and unclear, when they cannot understand what is happening around them, their need for something familiar to provide comfort and solace intensifies.

The quickest way to exasperate an individual and to gain his resentment and indignation is to challenge his beliefs for these are built-in values that form a sizeable part of the human psyche. Since man discovered himself and attempted to understand his surroundings and the universe, religion has played a major role in his life. It is futile to argue a religious conviction, for even those who argue against it do so from the basis of their own belief. "Belief power" can ultimately sweep before it all else. Men have waged wars, killed, maimed, tortured and committed untold atrocities against each other for their beliefs. Men have also been tamed and made docile by them; going so far as to sacrifice their wealth, comfort and their very existence. One man's belief may be a cause for gentle self-enfacement and self sacrifice while another's may be a cause for fanatic, unreasonable even inhuman behaviour — both being capable of the same behaviour, sacrificing everything for the preservation of their belief, when its very existence is being threatened.

One either has or does not have faith, though most men exist in a state of limbo or confusion concerning whatever convictions they may hold, tending to move closer to it as the tension in their life heightens. It is here that merchants of belief can become most effective in creating, should they so desire, mass hysteria and

fanatic behaviour.

Over the past few millennia of human existence, it was always the cult leader, the shaman, the guru, the witch-doctor, the medicine man, the priest, the clergyman, the man of the cloth, the man of religion under whatever title, who was the guardian of faith, the inner quality emanating from the soul of man. Not only were the greatest wars, atrocities, heroics and merciful acts committed in its name, but also, art and music, poetry and literature were practised and sculpture, and monuments and edifices were erected for its glory and edification. Strange how physical things have changed since man invented the wheel, yet so little change has occurred in the basic character, the soul, the motivation of man.

Not only is it incorrect and futile even foolish to argue that spiritual beliefs and religion are unimportant in today's "materialistic" world, but dangerous as well; dangerous since it attempts to ignore, gloss over, a terrific force, an untiring drive behind most men's actions and behaviour. Two remarks seem to be in order here: one, men have always been materialistic, after the flesh as much as after the soul, even in today's so-called materialistic world, religion remains a vital, dynamic and potential force for either war or peace. This is true even in the "materialistic" Western world with its capitalist and communist manifestations alike. We of the Third World very often forget that Marxism is the brainchild of Western thought just as capitalism is.

The state may be able to control men's bodies, control and channel their activities. Yet in spite of the scarce literature of

Huxley, Orwell and others, it has thus far failed in controlling their thoughts, least of all their deep-seated religious beliefs. Even in the Eastern bloc countries, the state found it had to come to terms with belief rather than the other way round. Throughout Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and Poland in particular, it was eventually the state that had to bow to popular belief. Pakistan broke away from India because of belief and India itself has been experiencing terrific pressure due to religious strife. In Africa, Latin America and Asia, religion continues to be a prime motivator of men's actions. In the Middle East, Israel was created strictly because of Zionist religious fanaticism while the Islamic Republic of Iran, provides another example of what zealotry can do. But then religion is very important in the developed, advanced, nations of the world. In the United States, itself, where it is still problematical whether a non-white, non-Anglo Saxon Protestant can be elected president, and where fundamentalist groups continue to speak as thundering Biblical prophets. In Britain there is still no separation between the church and the state and in Western Europe, Christian Democracy has, since World War II, been waging a battle against leftist socialist or communist thought. The antagonism between Catholic and Protestant in some parts of Europe, — Ireland is a glaring example, — continues to be a source of internal instability. This is true throughout most West European countries now.

It is necessary to keep this perspective as a background when discussing the role of religion in the Arab World.

Jackson speaks to broader audience in 1988 campaign

By Michael Gelb
Rauer

MARION, Iowa — "Save the worker, save the farmer, save the children, give peace a chance," Jesse Jackson shouts as he leads local Democrats in a rhythmic chant that capsulises his political programme.

"Democrats in 88, all the way in 88," Jackson adds to the chant — as if suddenly remembering that he has taken a vow of party loyalty in a bid to put a Democrat in the White House in next year's presidential election.

Despite the competing tugs of party loyalty and the natural shake-up style of his years as a political outsider, Jackson tops opinion polls in the eight person race for the Democrats' 1988 presidential nomination.

Some political experts discount his lead in the polls on the theory that Jackson, a black minister who first came to prominence as an aide to civil rights leader Martin Luther King, cannot win enough white votes to gain the nomination.

These analysts say Jackson's standing in the polls is inflated because he is the only nationally known figure in the race. They

also note that most voters are undecided and say they have unfavourable feelings toward Jackson.

Jackson, who has not yet formally declared his candidacy, bristles at these views.

"They are attributing my standing to name recognition when it's really service recognition," he told Reuters.

In his public remarks he wins laughs with the observation that "name recognition" might be a legitimate explanation if his name was Jesse Joe Kennedy or Jesse J. Rockefeller — a reference to two of America's most powerful families.

"But when you hear the name Jesse Jackson you think of someone defying the odds," he adds as he launches into a litany of events — from civil rights marches to the release of an American flyer held captive in Syria — he says voters associate with him.

In Iowa, which has staggered under a recession that has driven thousands of family farms into bankruptcy, Jackson has offered himself as a spokesman for struggling farmers, laid-off workers and the economically dispossessed of all races.

Here in Marion, where his talk

to about 1,000 mostly white Democrats at an outdoor barbecue won emotional applause, kisses, and handshakes, there is clearly a connection that goes beyond name recognition.

"He doesn't put any frosting on the cake. He comes right out with it," farmers wife Marie Ellington says with approval of Jackson's charge that U.S. corporations are exploiting cheap "slave labour" overseas at the cost of American jobs.

"He says what his peoples' hearts," adds her husband Orville, who says he is somewhat surprised by the reception accorded a tough-talking black man in a state where less than two per cent of the population is black.

There is dispute over how much electoral support Jackson will ultimately win in Iowa, which opens the presidential nominating contest next February with local party votes that have made the state a presidential king-maker.

There is little doubt that he is stirring emotions.

"Jackson is addressing the real pain in people's lives and connecting it to the political process," says Dixon Terry director

of Iowa's Unity Farm Coalition, a liberal group that lobbies on behalf of economically troubled farmers.

Terry said Jackson has been able to overcome racist attitudes by toning down his rhetoric.

"The changed attitudes toward Jackson couldn't have happened without the change in Jackson," he added.

This year's Jackson, although still capable of igniting a crowd with fiery rhetoric, is far different from the candidate who terrified the Democratic Party establishment in 1984 when he garnered 3.5 million votes as the first black to make a serious run for the presidential nomination of a major American political party.

In 1984, with little organisation or money, Jackson won 20 per cent of the Democratic presidential primary votes — mostly from blacks thrilled to see one of their own railing the predominantly white political power structure.

He gained the third largest bloc convention delegates behind former Vice President Walter Mondale, the eventual nominee, and then-Senator Gary Hart of Colorado.

But he railed bitterly against party rules he felt deprived him of

still more delegates, and he kept party chiefs quaking over the prospect he would lead a black political revolt and deprive the Democrats of votes from their most loyal constituency.

This year, Jackson has gone out of his way to reassure nervous party leaders.

"He has been making a deliberate effort to establish trust with regular party members," says longtime aide Frank Watkins.

Watkins also discounts some recent speculation that Jackson will decide not to enter the campaign.

"All my teeth would drop out if he doesn't run," he says.

In speech after speech, Jackson emphasises that "the key question is how can we (the Democrats) win."

The party leadership, which only grudgingly tolerated his presence in 1984, has eagerly seized the olive branch. A place of honour and a standing ovation for Jackson have become a regular feature of party gatherings across the country.

"The democrats are giving tribute and appreciation to Jackson for what he's done," says an aide to another Democratic presiden-



Jesse Jackson

tial contender. "It's almost the type of tribute given to an elder statesman."

"In 1984, he sounded very radical," says 1984 convention delegate Bridget Janus of Cedar Rapids. "But his answers in Houston (in a televised debate among Democratic candidates last month) were very thoughtful. There was nothing far out about him."

Senate endorses supplement to 1986 budget

(Continued from page 1)

Henceforth, Mr. Rifai said, the government will present any supplementary budget legislation to Parliament for its consideration and approval in time to allow the Ministry of Finance to finalise its accounts in time. He added that if there was a need during Parliament recess for urgent expenditure that could not be postponed, the government would then cover the emergency spending with a draft law that would be put forward to Parliament in its first subsequent session, in accordance with Article 94 of the Constitution. "We hope such a need would not arise," the prime minister said.

He proposed forming a committee consisting of members of the Financial and Legal committees of Parliament and Cabinet members to look into the question of supplementary budgets. He said the establishment of such a committee would allow a joint meeting to arrive at a unified position of both the legislative and executive branches of government on issuing draft laws for supplementary budgets. The proposal, which was earlier made to the Lower House, was not put to vote on Thursday.

Senator Bahjat Al Talhouni expressed his support of the government and urged senators to vote in favour of the draft law on the budget supplement.

Referring to the controversy created by accusations that the government had violated the Constitution by spending outside the general budget without Parliament's approval, Mr. Talhouni said that laws and regulations "should not be interpreted by their frozen words and defined texts, rather by their spirit and meaning." He said he was satisfied with the prime minister's report detailing where the money was spent and that there was no need "to complicate things more than necessary."

According to Mr. Rifai, JD 59.5 million of the supplementary budget constituted spending for the Armed Forces, the Public Security and Civil Defence departments between 1972 and 1985. The rest was used to bail out financially-troubled public share-holding companies and institutions.

Mr. Talhouni argued that budget supplements were not a new practice, saying that 33 budget supplements were introduced between 1958 and 1983. Referring to Mr. Salah, Mr. Talhouni asked: "Where were you when these supplements were approved?" Mr. Salah later said that "violations in the past should not justify more violations."

Furthermore, he added, "when successive governments since 1974 were issuing such supplements, Parliament was non-existent." The King dissolved Parliament in 1974 and reconvened it in 1984.

Sen. Hassan Kayed, who also opposed the draft law, said that the nature of reasons for which the budget supplement was issued did not carry any element of urgency and could have been postponed until Parliament was reconvened.

"It is true that the freedom of opinion and interpretation of the law is a healthy sign," Mr. Kayed said. "But it should be carried out in the service of the law and its goals, otherwise, it would be a deviation that should be rejected and condemned." Article 122 of the Constitution allows for referring ambiguities in the Constitution to the Supreme Council.

Sen. Jumaa Hammad backed opponents of the law. "We are convinced that the funds were needed, but the constitutional legitimacy of these supplements was questioned because the spending of the funds took place before the approval of the law," Mr. Hammad said.

Sen. Ahmad Tarawneh, urging other senators to shelve the issue, pointed out that the Lower House had already debated the

issue and found no need to refer it to the Supreme Council.

Sen. Abdul Rahman Khalifeh also rejected the proposal for Supreme Council arbitration pointing out that the Senate had already voted against the proposal when it was made by Mr. Badran in last month's session. "I see no other choice but to endorse the law," Mr. Khalifeh said.

Mr. Kayed then returned to stress the need to separate between "legislative and political opposition," over the issue of the draft law. He explained that "legislative opposition comes in the service of the legislation and its goals, while political opposition should be limited to political issues and should not interfere in legislation and its goals." Speaking in an angry tone, he added: "I fail to see how a stand taken by somebody in power could change when he is outside power." He did not elaborate.

Sen. Hazem Nussaiba expressed his support for the government "because it has already pledged not to issue budget supplements in the future before obtaining Parliament's approval."

Eagleton to return to Syria

(Continued from page 1)

had been made to lift them. An Israeli foreign ministry official voiced dissatisfaction Thursday with the U.S. decision to return its ambassador to Syria.

"To the best of our knowledge, there was no dramatic change in Syrian policy towards terrorism, so we really see no grounds to change the United States policy," said the Israeli official.

U.S. officials quoted by Reuters said the decision to return Mr. Eagleton followed Syria's expulsion of wanted Palestinian guerrilla Abu Nidal and his group from Damascus and increased Syrian pressure on Iran to free Mr. Glass.

But they said Syria still had some way to go before it could expect to have normal relations with Washington.

"There are still plenty of other Palestinian groups operating in and out of Damascus that we'd like to see out of there," one said.

Egypt reaffirms rejection

(Continued from page 1)

cated that Mr. Ceausescu failed to convince Mr. Shamir to drop his objections to an international Middle East peace conference.

Mr. Shamir said he and Mr. Ceausescu found "common ground, some points on which we agreed and some on which we differed."

Despite the differences, Mr. Shamir said, "I heard ideas (from Mr. Ceausescu) that are food for thought."

Mr. Shamir declined to give a reason for his assessment, saying, "I cannot go into details at this moment. I want to analyse the contents of these important discussions and then we will decide

what further steps to take." Radio Moscow, meanwhile, said in a commentary Mr. Shamir tried to convince Mr. Ceausescu to deviate from the joint position of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries which support an international peace conference.

The Arabic-language commentary said Mr. Ceausescu rejected Mr. Shamir's proposal of convening a limited regional peace conference.

The broadcast also said Mr. Ceausescu told Mr. Shamir the Arab-Israeli conflict can only be settled if Israel withdraws to the pre-1967 borders and recognises the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Iran warns of all-out war

(Continued from page 1)

is an acceptable avenue if it deals with humanitarian aspects or arrangements for the release of people. And I think that distinction should be clearly kept in mind."

"What we're talking about

here is no deals, no concessions, and we simply want to reiterate that is our policy."

Asked if the United States holds Iran responsible for the safety of the hostages held in Lebanon, Oakley cautioned reporters not to read the word "influence" to mean "control."

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Gulf to soon brim with 60 warships

LONDON (R) — The sailing of British and French minesweeping forces this week brings to almost 60 the number of naval vessels that outside powers will soon have to protect shipping or clear mines in or near the Gulf.

The current estimate for big power warships in or en route to the Gulf area is: the United States — 28 (including four small coastal minesweepers), France — 13, Britain — 10, the Soviet Union — 6. On July 22 the four countries were estimated to have 31 naval vessels in the region.

Here is a breakdown of their forces involved:

The United States: Middle East task force:
— Command ship La Salle (11,000 tonnes), armed with three-inch, 50-calibre and 20mm rapid-fire Phalanx guns.
— Amphibious assault ship Guadalcanal (11,000 tonnes), carrying eight RH-53D sea stallion minesweeping helicopters.
— Guided-missile cruiser Fox (8,570 tonnes) and Worden (8,570 tonnes), armed with Harpoon anti-ship missiles and standard anti-aircraft and anti-missile missiles, one five-inch gun and pair of Phalanx guns.
— Guided-missile destroyer Kadd (6,210 tonnes). Armed with Harpoon and standard missiles, Phalanx guns and metal chaff dispensers to confuse approaching missiles and aircraft.
— Guided-missile frigates Klaring, Crommelin, Jarrett and Flately (2,750 tonnes), same armament as Kidd.

The United States also has an aircraft carrier in the northern Arabian Sea with six support and escort ships to provide air cover for tankers moving through the Strait of Hormuz.

— Aircraft carrier Constellation (60,100 tonnes), carries about 85 aircraft including 25 F-14 fighters, up to 15 each A-6 and A-7 attack planes, four EA-6B electronic radar-jamming aircraft and two E-2C Hawkeye surveillance aircraft.

— Guided-missile cruiser Valley Forge (9,600 tonnes).
— Frigates Ouellet and Cook (3,011 tonnes).

— Guided-missile destroyer Cochran (3,370 tonnes).
— Ammunition ship Camden (19,200 tonnes).

— Supply ship Niagara Falls (9,200 tonnes).
— Battle group en route to the Indian Ocean:

— Battleship Missouri (45,000 tonnes).
— Cruisers Bunker Hill (9,600 tonnes) and Long Beach (15,540 tonnes).

— Guided-missile destroyer Hoel (3,370 tonnes).
— Frigate Curtis (2,750 tonnes).

— Ammunition ship Kansas City (12,500 tonnes).
— Amphibious transport dock Raleigh (8,000 tonnes) with four 17-metre wooden-hull coastal minesweepers abroad in on its way and is expected to arrive in the Gulf next month.

France: aircraft carrier task force:

— Aircraft carrier Clemenceau (32,780 tonnes) equipped with 40 aircraft including cruiser fighters, Super Etendard strike planes and helicopters.

— Guided-missile destroyers Suffren (5,090 tonnes) and Duquesne (6,090 tonnes). Equipped with anti-aircraft missiles, Exocet anti-ship missiles and anti-submarine missiles and torpedoes.
— Supply ship Meuse (17,450 tonnes).

Indian Ocean fleet:
— Flagship Marne (17,450 tonnes).

— Frigates Protet, Commandant Bory, Victor Schoelcher (2,230 tonnes). Exocet missiles, torpedoes.

— Anti-submarine frigate Georges Leygues (4,170 tonnes). Armed with Exocet missiles and crotale air defence system.

— Minesweeping force (left Toulon on Monday):
— Miohuaters Vinh-Long, Garigliano and Caotbo (780 tonnes).

— support ship Garonne (2,320 tonnes).

Britain: Amrilla patrol (accompanies British-flagged merchant ships in southern Gulf):
— Destroyer Edinburgh (3,500 tonnes), armed with sea dart anti-aircraft missiles and carrying Lynx helicopter with anti-submarine torpedoes.

— Frigates Brazen (3,500 tonnes) and Andromeda (2,500 tonnes), armed with Exocets and Sea Wolf anti-aircraft missiles.

— Support tanker Brambleleaf (33,000 tonnes).
— Minesweeping force (left Britain Monday):

— Four Hunt class mine warfare vessels Bicester, Hurworth, Brecon and Brocklesby (615 tonnes).

— Mine counter measures support vessel Abdiel (1,500 tonnes).
— Repair ship Diligence (10,595 tonnes) en route from Falklands Islands.

The Soviet Union: Believed to have at least six naval vessels in the area — three 650-tonne Mayya class minesweepers, armed with SA-N-5 anti-aircraft missiles, two frigates and an intelligence-gathering vessel.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Aug. 22, 1987

8:30 Together We Stand
Socks and Bands

9:00 Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film
City Killer

Starring:
Gerald McRenny,
Terence Knox

Sun. — Aug. 23, 1987

8:30 Growing Pains

9:10 Intimate Contact
Episode 2

In the final episode Clive dies, but the pain caused to the Greg-

ory family by the public fear and prejudice aroused by AIDS continues even after his death. The crematorium staff refuse to handle his coffin.

Throughout 'Intimate Contact', Ruth's (Claire Bloom) personality has grown, she has become a stronger person and, has learned, painfully but fearlessly, to face the prospect of life for herself after her husband's death.

10:20 Hunter
Rich Girl

11:10 Are You Being Served?
The Hero

Mon. — Aug. 24, 1987

8:30 Throb

9:10 Mussolini

10:20 Bird of Prey

Episode 2

Made Murder

Richardson's death points to a cover-up embracing Henry's own department, and he senses personal danger. Determined to continue the investigation alone, he rents a bedsit where, with the aid of a portable computer, he starts piecing together Richardson's leads. Meanwhile Hendersly has assigned Detective Sergeant Vine and Chambers to find Henry. But, by the time they reach the bedsit, he has left for Brussels to find Vacheron's girlfriend, Hannah, who works for the EEC. She is unforthcoming about Hugo Jardine and fails to acknowledge Vacheron's password. Henry returns to London but not before noticing the obvious police presence at his Brussels hotel.

11:10 Love Boat

Tue. — Aug. 25, 1987

8:30 Double Trouble

9:10 Ohara
Log Line — Ohara

"Jesse"... A brutal murder and the threat of gang warfare accompanies a gang leaders' tense return from prison to the barrio. Ohara (Pat Morita) must quickly find the killer before the peaceful neighbourhood is destroyed by a violent confrontation.

10:20 The Unknown War

11:10 Open All Hours

Wed. — Aug. 26, 1987

8:30 Don't Wait Up
The Two Doctors Latimer

9:10 The Silk Road

(Documentary)

10:20 Best Seller

Thur. — Aug. 27, 1987

8:30 Comedy

9:10 Gone to Texas

New miniseries
Sam Elliott stars as Sam Houston in this three-hour action-packed historical drama about the larger-than-life frontier hero who led Texas to independence.

10:20 Feature Film

Fri. — Aug. 28, 1987

8:30 Bill Cosby Show
Bald and Beautiful

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 Inside Story
Episode 2

Now Benazir, the blushing bride

By Karen Deyoung

BENAZIR Bhutto first set eyes on her intended, Asif Ali Zardari, only six days before their engagement was announced on July 29. The marriage, scheduled to take place this winter, is an arranged one — negotiated over the past year by senior members of her family and finalised only after they assured themselves of the suitability of the match.

There is still a whiff of romantic excitement in the air in Benazir's London home, enhanced by the extravagant flower arrangements, the gifts of well-wishers, scattered around the room. Half a dozen female Bhuttos are discussing the details. Seated among them, far from the tense life of politics she says she never envisioned for herself, Pakistan's main opposition leader is positively giggly.

"Mummy, please come and explain to this reporter — she was asking how do families find out if a marriage applicant is suitable," Benazir Bhutto says. Her mother complies. She made a list of questions, she says, "and read them out" during her examination of the would-be groom.

"Oh, mummy, please don't," Miss Bhutto interjects. "That's an invasion of privacy." But she falls back, laughing, into the sofa. When Mr. Zardari asked for Miss Bhutto's hand early last year, her family had its work cut out. Following the precepts of their Islamic faith and Pakistani custom, they began an exhaustive investigation of his social and economic standing.

Mr. Zardari, at 34 the same age as his intended, passed the first hurdles easily. The son of landed Pakistani gentry, he runs the family construction business. Most Pakistanis know him best for his polo team, the Zardari Four.

But in Miss Bhutto's case, there was an even more important consideration. Having succeeded her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, as leader of the Pakistan People's Party, she is one of the most popular and powerful politicians on the Asian subcontinent and hopes eventually to become Pakistan's president. In a male-dominated culture, could Mr. Zardari cope with being consort to an exceptional woman who is followed by perhaps millions of her countrymen?

Early last month, at the end of the exhaustive investigations, family members and political advisers pronounced Mr. Zardari fully qualified. By mid-July the bargain was all but sealed, with only one detail remaining — the introduction of the hopeful groom to the prospective bride.

Her aunt, the reigning Bhutto matriarch, said he was nice. Her mother, always eager to expand the family approved. "They all said yes, he's very good, we're sure he's the best choice," recalls the reluctant bride. "I kept saying please, postpone it a little more. Then I was more or less compelled to meet him." She reserved a night of veto.

In July the Bhutto and the



Zardari clans met for five days and nights in London, a central location for their far-flung relations. Benazir watched Asif across crowded rooms. Every morning, her mother and sister asked her, was it yes or no? On July 28 she said yes. "You get tired of saying no, no, no all the time," she said in retrospect.

To those who knew her in the early 1970s at Harvard University, where she was nicknamed "Pinkie," the idea of Benazir Bhutto submitting to an arranged marriage strikes a dissonant chord. In Oxford, where she came for graduate studies, she is remembered for being the first woman to be elected president of the Oxford Union and for driving fast in flashy cars.

One other finally gave way to the other in 1977 when her father, then prime minister of Pakistan, was overthrown in a military coup led by the army chief of staff, General Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq. That September the elder Bhutto was imprisoned and found guilty of conspiring to murder a party colleague. Despite appeals for clemency from around the world, he was executed in April 1979. Throughout the period of her father's imprisonment, it was Benazir who carried the standard for both the party and the family.

Benazir herself says that in a country where women have a religious duty to marry, her spinsterhood was a potential political liability. Besides, she notes, after her brother died, "My mother got more and more worried and concerned that the family was small."

Her brothers and sister, living outside Pakistan, married for love, and while Benazir knew she must always be seen as the embodiment of Muslim propriety she assumed that eventually she would do the same. But the years began to catch up with her, and there never seemed to be time to look for Mr. Right. Instead, she got Mr. Zardari.

After meeting him in London Benazir finally agreed with her family that he was nice, tolerant, and with a good sense of humour.

"I didn't want somebody who would nag me when I came back home and argue with me," she said. "All day I am nagged and argued with, so I didn't want to come home to more."

The subject of the conversation has entered the room unnoticed and is sitting quietly to one side. Eventually he is introduced and asked how it felt to be held up to such close examination.

His bride-to-be answers for him. "I don't know how he did it, frankly, I did everything to put it off ... but he was very persistent."

Finally husband-to-be answers. Dressed in a sports short and trousers with a Pakistani shawl around his shoulders to ward off the London chill, Mr. Zardari is calm and soft-spoken. He seems more bemused than bewildered by his sudden international notoriety. "My father used to own a cinema, and she would come to see the movies."

The mother interjects: "And then, of course, she was always giving speeches, and he would see her. She didn't notice him, but he knew her. So, you see, it wasn't arranged for him."

The daughter looks sceptically at her fiancé. "But it was arranged. Your father must have told you to do it."

No, he answers quietly. "I told my father." Until Benazir, he says, "nobody else had inspired me."

Benazir sighs and smiles. "That's a nice compliment. You see, he's likeable, isn't he?" — The Washington Post.

France has its own 'Bermuda Triangle'

By Vanora Bennett

Reuter

PARIS — A series of unexplained disappearances in a marshy area containing three army camps has led to talk of a "Bermuda Triangle" in the Marne department of northeastern France.

Police began last week investigating the fate of a 21-year-old soldier, Guy Antoniaki, the eighth young man in seven years to vanish without trace into the flat landscape of the area.

The French media have dubbed the 15-square-kilometre patch of marshland the "Bermuda Triangle of the Marne," after the section of the Atlantic Ocean between Miami, Bermuda and Puerto Rico where more than 120 ships and planes have disappeared since 1945.

Antoniaki, one of 10,000 recruits doing compulsory military service in the area every year, failed to return to his Dragoon Regiment after home leave last month.

The army lists Antoniaki and the other young men who have vanished from military service camps near the town of Mourmelon since 1980, as deserters. But his mother refuses to accept this verdict.

"I don't believe he's a deserter. If he had deserted, I think he would certainly have warned me

and his girlfriend who has a baby who's about to be christened," she said in a recent television interview.

"But we've had no news. He loved the army life. He told my son-in-law he might join up permanently because he liked it so much."

The families of six other missing soldiers also refuse to believe they are deserters, saying the young men enjoyed army life and had happy home lives.

They object that desertion does not explain why a young civilian, Patrick Denis, also disappeared while hitchhiking on the road to Mourmelon in August 1985.

The enigma focuses on the three minor roads which link the army camps at Chalons-Sur-Marne, Suippes, and Mourmelon.

Conscripts use the roads to hitch-hike into Paris or Mourmelon station on their days off. All the vanished soldiers were last seen heading towards the road bordering the triangle.

The three camps, which contain the highest concentration of young men doing military service anywhere in France, are rife with rumours.

Some people believe the conscripts were kidnapped by a "hermit legionnaire." Others say they were whisked off to work as mercenaries or in a male vice ring.

Alain Gache, the brother of Patrick Gache who went missing last year and the organiser of a family support network, says many relatives of the missing believe they were snatched by a sex maniac.

"My brother didn't desert. He was kidnapped. Definitely. Like the others ... he knew the area and we had already discussed the disappearances and he would never have taken a lift from anyone," he told a French newspaper.

Relatives say the army has been unhelpful and slow to release information to police banding the case from the regional capital at Reims.

"It's a serious problem," said an army spokesman. "The army isn't denying it, but what else can we do but tip off the police that a soldier hasn't returned to barracks?"

"We are aware that army jargon which lists all the missing men as deserters is hurtful to the families," the spokesman added.

Local police admit they are baffled. "There is definitely a mystery here which we haven't managed to clear up in spite of interviewing over 2,000 people, making hundreds of checks and carrying out dozens of searches," said an officer involved in the case.

Spain may take top slot in tourism revenues

By Alfredo Gomez

The Associated Press

MADRID — Spain is exhorting its citizens to smile as it emphasises its mix of sun, sea and sangria to the rest of the world — a combination that may make it the world's leader in earning money from tourism.

"Be nice to tourists because Spain is synonymous with nice," shout thousands of billboards, posters and newspaper ads. "A smile is your contribution."

The government is starting with an advantage in that Spaniards, though seldom mastering foreign languages, have a reputation for being easy-going, patient and tolerant.

But the ad campaign seeks to remind those Spaniards who don't smile that tourism is their country's number one industry and its main source of foreign currency.

The campaign is also seen by some as an attempt to allay fears of would-be travellers about safety. The fears have been fuelled by news reports of growing drug-influenced street crime in Spain's major cities and attacks by Basque separatists.

One of the ads shows a man at a public telephone surrounded by a group of people: "Maria? Listen, I've just met a group of very nice tourists, and I'm bringing them home for lunch. Prepare 70 Spanish omelets."

Revenue from tourism represents 10 per cent of Spain's gross domestic product (GDP) and covers a good portion of the country's import bill, including oil.

The tourism keeps more than a million Spaniards in jobs, or nearly 10 per cent of the country's work force in a nation where unemployment is 21.7 per cent the highest in Europe.

Last year Spain earned more dollars from tourism than both Italy and France and came close to surpassing U.S. tourism revenues.

Spanish officials say Spain expects to earn a record \$14 billion from tourism this year.

An old belief gains support: familiarity breeds resemblance

By Daniel Goleman

New York Times

NEW YORK — Science is lending support to the old belief that married couples eventually become look alike.

After 25 years of marriage, couples who bore no particular resemblance when first married came to resemble one another, although the resemblance might be subtle, according to a study.

The more marital happiness a couple reported, the greater their increase in facial resemblance.

The increase in facial similarity probably results from decades of shared emotions, according to Robert Zajonc, a psychologist at the University of Michigan, who did the research.

In the study, people were presented a random array of photographs of faces, with the backgrounds blacked out, and were instructed to match the men with the women who most closely resembled them. Two dozen of the photographs were of couples when first married; another two dozen were of the same couples 25 years later, most taken around the time of their silver wedding anniversary.

The young couples showed only a chance similarity, the study found, while the judges found a definite resemblance between the couples who had been married a quarter-century.

While the resemblances were not dramatic — some seemed to involve subtle shifts in facial wrinkles and other facial contours, for instance — they were marked enough that the judges were able to match husbands and

wives far more often when the couples were older than when they were younger.

The study, done by Dr. Zajonc with three graduate students, Pamela Adelman, Sheila Murphy and Paula Niedenthal, will be published later this year in the journal *Motivation and Emotion*.

Dr. Zajonc, in explaining the findings, holds that factors such as similar diets, and thus deposits of fatty tissues, may contribute to the resemblance but are not crucial: When the photographs were evaluated for facial fat, the older couples were found to have less similarity than the younger ones.

Instead, he proposes that people often unconsciously mimic the facial expressions of their spouses in a silent empathy, and that over the years sharing the same expressions shapes the face similarly. Evidence for mimicry of expressions has come from research by Olaf Dimberg, a psychologist in Sweden, who measured tension levels in facial muscles of volunteers while they were shown photographs of facial expressions.

When the volunteers saw an angry face, for instance, their muscles mimicked the anger, often to a degree that was invisible but was measurable by electronic devices.

Dr. Zajonc suggested that shared facial expressions brought on identical emotions because facial muscles played a role in regulating blood flow to the brain.

"You both smile because you feel good and feel good because you smile," he said.

In an article published in 1985 in *Science*, Dr. Zajonc pointed out that the carotid artery, which supplies blood to the brain, forks at the neck, sending out a major branch to the face. As the facial muscles tense and relax, they tend to act as tourniquets on the veins draining blood from various parts of the brain, indirectly regulating blood flow and temperature in various brain areas.

Dr. Zajonc's theory holds that this process helps determine which chemicals are released in the brain.

In this view, which Dr. Zajonc conceded was speculative, a given facial expression, such as a smile, triggers the brain chemicals that evoke the associated feelings.

"Facial mimicry allows a truer empathy because it triggers the same inner state," Dr. Zajonc said. "Couples can understand each other much better when this happens."

Other experts agree that shared emotions could gradually sculpture the faces of a couple to become more similar, but they do not agree with Dr. Zajonc's explanation.

"Common life experiences over years and years can alter facial musculature and wrinkle patterns, leading to an increased resemblance, but there is no reason to believe that it has anything to do with blood flow to the brain," said Paul Ekman, a psychologist at the University of California Medical School in San Francisco, who is an expert on the muscles involved in emotional expression — *International Herald Tribune*.

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Jordan's men's team outclasses Nepal in Asian handball games

The Chinese female team trounces inexperienced Jordanian team

By Rania Atalla
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan scored an easy victory over Nepal and South Korea downed Japan on Thursday in a heated competition at the Fourth men's and First women's Asian Handball Championships. Jordan's victory came in the opening match while South Korea defeated Japan in the first ladies' match.

The championships, which were patronised by Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat, kicked off Thursday afternoon in the presence of a large and enthusiastic crowd.

The opening ceremonies included a parade of the participating teams, speeches by the presidents of the Asian and Jordanian Handball Federations, as well as a show of Jordanian and Circassian dances performed by local groups.

In the opening game, the Jordanian men's team gave an unexpected, yet impressive performance that secured them a 24-14 victory over Nepal. The Jordanian national team started out its performance with a 3-3 offensive tactic that continued throughout the game. With Tabataba as playmaker and Hujrat and Mansi on the defensive, the

Jordanian team was able to weaken Nepal's defensive strategy considerably.

The team made use of the wide open straight shots which the 3-2-1 defence strategy of Nepal was unable to fend off.

In spite of the challenge posed by the Jordanian team, Nepal gave a good performance with its pressing defence tactics led by Thaner Kar (5) and Gorons (11). On the other hand, the women's games started off with a brilliant performance by South Korea defeating the Japanese team with a final score of 32:16 (17:7 in the first half).

The South Korean team skillfully applied a 3-2-1 defence strategy which the Japanese strikers failed to break despite the latter's high level of fitness and stamina. Collective coordination and swift attacks coupled with the impress-

ive performance by the South Korean goal keeper ensured Seoul's victory over Japan.

On Friday, the Jordanian women's team lost to China 50 to 8. "We used a 4-2 formation on the offensive and a 6-0 on the defensive," said Lubna Karadshah, the playmaker on the Jordanian team. Despite the defeat, she said, "it was a chance for every member of the team to gain a necessary first-hand experience which we do not get in practising alone." "We were expecting this defeat. But we tried our best and we are happy with what we did," she added.

The Chinese team, which enjoys high fitness and skill levels, used a 3-3 technique on the offensive but used variable techniques and formations on the defensive, said one member of the Jordanian team.

"The Chinese scored a large number of points on the fast-breaks," said Maysoon Nshaiwat, who usually plays on the wing position on the Jordanian team. She cheerfully added that "the Chinese team is very powerful. We do not have the skills and stamina that they enjoy. But this game gave us a chance to improve our performance since we played against a team with superior skills and more experience. It was great."

"Our game with Syria would be a tough one," Miss Karadshah added. "We were able to show our skills and perform better since our levels are more or less similar and we have played with them three times already."

After the women's game, the men's Korean team beat the

Bahraini team 38-21.

By deadline time, the men's Kuwaiti team was meeting with Qatar in a game which was scheduled to be followed by a match between China and Japan and another between the Syrian and Palestinian teams.

The games scheduled for Saturday include in the men's championship Korea against Taiwan, Kuwait against Nepal, Qatar against Jordan, Japan against Syria, and Palestine against China. In the women's games, China is scheduled to play against Syria at 10:00 and Korea against Taiwan at 11:30.

The championship games will continue through the 30th of this month.

New freestyle record restores pride for Caron

STRASBOURG, France (R) — Stephan Caron, who lost his European 100 metres freestyle crown to one East German on Thursday, responded by seizing the four-year-old European record of another in the European Swimming Championships on Friday.

The French number one, dethroned by Sven Lodziewski against all expectation in Thursday's individual final, swam with the determined defiance of a man determined to claim the European record from Joerg Woithe in the lead-off leg of the 4x100 metres freestyle relay heats.

Caron, self-esteem restored, punched the air in triumph when he turned to see the electronic scoreboard register his time of 49.51 seconds, beating the 49.58 mark set by Woithe in Gera, East Germany, in June 1983.

The brave swim firmly re-established Caron's briefly-tarnished reputation as Europe's fastest 100 metres freestyler, but the world-record of American Matt Biondi remained out of reach.

Biondi, who relegated Caron to second place in last year's world championships in Madrid, set the world mark of 48.74 in Orlando, Florida, in June 1986.

"I'm surprised but I had some luck and I concentrated on my start. Yesterday's mistakes served as a lesson today and I said yesterday I could do better," Caron said.

On Thursday, Caron set a European championship record of 49.93 in the heats, but misjudged his swim in the final, touching in 49.88, 0.09 seconds behind Lodziewski.

Reid hopes to return for injury-hit Everton

LONDON (R) — Injury-hit English League champions Everton team hope to have player-coach Peter Reid in action at high-flying Nottingham Forest on Saturday.

Fellow England midfielder Trevor Steven could also be back after missing the midweek draw at Wimbledon with a virus infection.

Everton has made a good start with a win and a draw from their two games despite an injury list which would cripple most clubs. Goalkeeper Neville Southall and Gary Stevens all again be missing Saturday but Kevin Sheedy and Ian Snodin have an outside chance of returning.

Everton faces a stiff challenge from a club which has won both their opening games. At the other end of the division newly promoted Portsmouth will have £285,000 (\$460,000) striker Ian Baird and winger Vince Hilaire making their season's debuts in the home game with local rivals Southampton.

Both players missed the defeats

by Oxford and Chelsea because of suspensions carried over from last season.

Baird faces a real test of character. He began as a Southampton apprentice but never really succeeded, while his visit to Portsmouth last season as a Leeds player provoked a hostile response from the home crowd.

A full house of 29,500 is expected Saturday with more than 500 police officers on duty. Portsmouth manager Alan Ball said: "I hope commonsense prevails and we have a great day to remember."

Manchester United stands by the same 13 who have been on duty for the opening two drawn games for the visit of Watford. Manager Alex Ferguson said: "It's early days yet but I've seen plenty to admire in both our games."

"We are not too far away from knitting together and I am confident we can repeat our performance of last season when we beat Watford 3-1. That would set us on the right path."

French cyclist wins 7th leg of Coors Classic

ESTES PARK, Colorado (AP) — A spill in the first lap of the Estes Park Circuit race Thursday dented three riders and helped Jeanie Longo establish an early lead that she never relinquished in the seventh women's stage of the Coors International Bicycle Classic.

Longo of Grenoble, France, and team Lyra, was all alone when she crossed the finish line in 1 hour, 11 minutes, 14 seconds. In second place was Italy's Maria Canina of Celestial Seasonings, who was 21 seconds behind Longo.

American Carol Rogers-Dunning of the Peugeot team was third in 1:12:17.

The hopes American Inga Benedict held of winning the criterium for the second straight year were dashed when the 7-circuit rider fell in the crash. Benedict finished fourth, 1 minute and 38 seconds behind Longo.

The crash occurred when American Meg Gordon was squeezed by riders on either side in a descent and was left no room to manoeuvre.

Seoul sports chief hails Jordan's handball games preparations

By Mun'em Fakhour
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — South Korea's Olympic Committee President Kim Chong-Ha said Friday he was impressed by Jordan's perfect organisation of the men's fourth and women's first Asian Handball Championships, currently being held in Amman.

Mr. Kim said that the Jordanian courtesy and hospitality accorded to the participating teams further improved the games standards and attracted a large number of entries.

The participants were touched by the Jordanian folk dances and music at the outset of the opening ceremony on Thursday, Mr. Kim told the Jordan Times. The Korean official noted that he planned to ask the National Olympic Committee back home to include a Jordanian folk dance in the opening parade of Seoul's 1988

Olympic Games. Commenting on the Asian Handball Championships, in which teams from 11 countries are taking part, Mr. Kim speculated that the first three winners will be Korea, Japan, and China in the men's championships, while the leads in the women's events will go to Korea and China.

Mr. Kim reiterated Seoul's position on North Korea's demands to co-host the 1988 Olympic Games, and said South Korea will offer no further concessions other than the recent proposal by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), which was endorsed by the South. The proposal gave North Korea the right to organise table tennis, archery, and volleyball, in addition to a 100-kilometre cycling race. Pyongyang was also given the right to organise qualification matches for one group of the soccer events.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

'Firecracker' wounds 6 soccer fans

PESCARA, Italy (AP) — A large homemade firecracker known as a "paper bomb" went off unexpectedly during a nighttime soccer match, wounding six young fans, according to Italian news media. Eighteen-year-old Francesco Mestragelo, who smuggled in the crude device Thursday, was the most seriously injured and several fingers of his right hand were amputated, according to the reports. He was later put under arrest in the hospital on charges of carrying illegal explosives. Five of his friends aged 14 to 17 were also hurt by the explosion. Mestragelo apparently was handling the explosive when it went off sooner than expected, the reports said.

New foe for Bruno

LONDON (AP) — American heavyweight Reggie Gross has replaced former champion Greg Page as Frank Bruno's opponent in a scheduled 10-round bout in Spain next week, officials said Friday. Promoter Mickey Duff said a conflict between Page and his managers had forced the Louisville, Ky., boxer to pull out of the scheduled bout in Marbella Aug. 29. Gross, from Baltimore, has not fought in 14 months. His last bout was a first-round knockout by world champion Mike Tyson. Gross is 18-5 as a professional, with losses in his last two outings, to Tyson and American Henry Tillman. His last victory was an eighth-round stoppage of American Bert Cooper in January 1986.

\$1,000 offered for return of stolen golds

HONOLULU (AP) — Former Olympic swimmer Pokey Watson Richardson says someone broke into her home and stole her two Olympic gold medals. "They just represent a lot of years and time spent concentrating on a particular goal, and there is a lot of satisfaction in achieving that goal," she said. Mrs. Richardson — then Pokey Watson — won the gold medals in two Olympics. The first came in Tokyo in 1964 when she was a member of U.S. women's 400-metre freestyle relay team. In Mexico City in 1968, she got the gold for winning the 200-metre backstroke. She said the thief broke into a box and took the medals from their ribbons on Monday. She said the medals are virtually worthless because they are gold-plated. She is offering a \$1,000 reward for the return of the medals.

Soviet 13-year-old wins diving title

STRASBOURG, France (R) — A tiny 13-year-old Soviet girl has become Europe's youngest ever diving gold medalist with victory in the highboard final at the European Swimming Championships. Elena Miroshina, 1.42 metres tall, came to Strasbourg only because she was too young to compete in the European Junior Championships which set a minimum age of 14, organisers said. There is no lower age limit here. The Moscow schoolgirl, competing in her first major championships on Thursday, finished more than 40 points ahead of compatriot Anzhela Stasjulevich.

African sports figure dies in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Yindektachen Tessema, a pioneer of Ethiopian soccer and one of the best-known organisers and administrators in African sport, has died at the age of 66. His funeral, held in Addis Ababa on Thursday, was attended by government officials, sports fans and members of the diplomatic corps. Tessema retired from Ethiopian government service in 1981 but he was still at his death president of the African Football Federation (AFF) and president of the Union of African Sports Confederation (UASC). He had served as a member of the executive committee of FIFA, vice-chairman of the organising committee of the Olympic Soccer Tournament and member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). As a young man, Tessema played for one of the first soccer clubs to be established in Ethiopia and was captain of the national team.

Russian, Cuban stars to clash in Bahrain volleyball games

BAHRAIN (R) — The Soviet Union and Cuba provided the key focus of the Junior World Volleyball Championships, being held in an Arab state for the first time. Sixteen teams are competing in the 10-day event which opened here Friday with hosts Bahrain playing Peru. But all eyes were on the young

Russians, who have won all three previous championships — in Brazil in 1977, in America in 1981 and in Italy in 1985. The games are now being held every two years instead of every four. Cuba is determined to end the run of Soviet victories to add the junior cup to wins by their national men's and women's teams. South Korea, the Asian champions, are a serious third force and have their eyes on a place in the final.

"The facilities here can be summed up in one word — excellent," Ruben Acosta, president of the International Volleyball Federation, told reporters. The countries participating in the games include Japan, West Germany, Peru, Soviet Union, Cuba, China, Algeria, South Korea, Algeria, Argentina, Greece, Bulgaria, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Canada and Bahrain.

Huggins knocks out Morado in 2nd round

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — Tino Huggins of California scored a second-round knockout of Martin Morado of Tijuana, Mexico, in a scheduled 10-rounder between the two lightweights Thursday night at Arco Arena. Huggins, weighing in at 134 pounds (60 kilograms), extended his record to 18-1 with his 15th knockout. Huggins, 24, who was out of the ring for two years, now has won three straight fights by knockout.

Breland, Starling in for a showdown

COLUMBIA, South Carolina (R) — World Boxing Association (WBA) welterweight champion Mark Breland and Marlon Starling go into their title fight Saturday looking ahead to a money-spinning meeting with Lloyd Honeyghan.

Both Americans say they would go anywhere to fight Hon-

eyghan, British holder of the World Boxing Council (WBC) and International Boxing Federation (IBF) versions of the title.

"I'm concentrating on Saturday's fight right now, but I would love to fight Lloyd Honeyghan anytime, anywhere," said Breland, who has won all his 18 professional fights.

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Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198

POLICE STORY

Performances: 12:15, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15



هنا من الأمل

4,000 more black strikers fired by South African mine owners

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A South African mining company fired 4,000 striking black miners at the world's biggest gold mine Friday and about 44,000 others were threatened with dismissal.

The Anglo American company said the 4,000 voted themselves out of their jobs by refusing to return to work at the Western Holdings Mine in Orange Free State province.

It brought to 10,000 the number of strikers fired since the black National Union of Mine-workers (NUM) launched a strike at gold and coal mines over wages on Aug. 8.

About 300,000 men are estimated to have stopped work and this week owners threatened to close several pits.

The NUM said 6,000 were fired Thursday. Anglo American said that, besides the 4,000 men dismissed at Western Holdings, it

had given 16,000 others a three more pits until Monday to go back or be sacked.

Two other firms, Gencor and Johannesburg Consolidated Investment, have ordered 28,000 men at other pits to return to work.

Cyril Ramaphosa, NUM general secretary, told a news conference Thursday night that threats made the 300,000 strikers more determined to achieve their demands for a 30 per cent pay rise and better working conditions.

"They are so determined they are prepared to be dismissed en bloc and go home rather than continue working for the Chamber of Mines for starvation

wages," he told reporters. Mr. Ramaphosa said dismissals were likely to fuel anger in an already violent strike. More than 250 strikers have so far been injured in clashes with police and mine security forces.

There has been no contact so far between the union and the Chamber of Mines, which groups the big mining companies.

Anglo American refuses to improve its offer of a wage increase of up to 23.4 per cent.

The strike has badly disrupted gold and coal fields, the engine of South Africa's economy.

About 2,000 miners gathered their meagre possessions, collected their last pay packets and left Anglo American's Vaal Reef Gold Mine, west of Johannesburg, Thursday after rejecting a company ultimatum to go back to work or be fired.

Four thousand strikers at

Johannesburg Consolidated Investment company's Randfontein estate gold mine were also told they had been fired Thursday, Mr. Ramaphosa said.

They met Thursday night to discuss whether they should accept an offer to be rehired on the company's terms or leave the mine, west of Johannesburg.

Meanwhile a 102-year-old black woman was burned to death in the latest incident of South Africa's political violence.

The woman died when her home near Pietermaritzburg in Natal province was set on fire by unknown assailants, police said in a terse daily summary of unrest.

Her name has to be kept secret to protect the rest of her family, a police spokesman said. An estimated 2,500 people, almost all of them blacks, have died in the past three years of politically-motivated violence in the country.

At least 25 S. Africans killed in road accident

JOHANNESBURG (R) — At least 25 black South African miners were killed Friday when a bus crashed in a remote mountain pass, rescue officials said.

The South African Press Association said at least 60 people were killed.

The bus carrying miners from Orange Free State province to tribal homelands in the Cape slammed into the side of a mountain at Nico Malan Pass.

Rescue officials said at least 25 bodies had been recovered from the wreckage and there were

many injured. The miners were returning from strike-bound gold mines near Welkom but it was not clear whether the victims were among hundreds of thousands of workers involved in the country's biggest wage strike.

A police officer at Cathcart near the scene of the accident told Reuters by telephone he did not have a complete casualty toll.

He said sketchy reports from hospitals spoke of 35 injured but more bodies were being recovered from the wreckage.

Son doubts Hess suicide, wants second autopsy

WUNSIEDEL, West Germany (R) — The son of Hitler's former deputy Rudolf Hess expressed doubt Friday that his father committed suicide and said he planned to order a second autopsy to establish the cause of death.

Wolf-Ruediger Hess told Reuters that the World War II ally who guarded his father in West Berlin's Spandau Prison had not handed over the report of an autopsy they carried out.

He also said he had not been given the suicide note found on Hess when he was found unconscious on Monday with an electrical cord round his neck in a cottage in the prison grounds.

Hess, 93, died later in a British military hospital in West Berlin. The allies said he died of asphyxiation.

"We have not seen any signs of strangulation on the neck of the body," Wolf-Ruediger said by telephone from his home in Munich.

He and family lawyer Alfred Seidl have disputed the allies' explanation and suggested others might have been involved in the death.

Wolf Ruediger did not say where or when the autopsy would take place but he would hold a news conference in Munich in the next few days when the study was completed.

The burial of the last Nazi leader will take place at earliest next week in the family grave in the Bavarian town of Wunsiedel, where Nazi sympathisers were gathering to honour him.

Hess had been in captivity since he fled alone to Scotland in 1941. He had been held in Spandau, guarded by the wartime allies Britain, France, the United

States and the Soviet Union, since the Nuremberg war crimes trial in 1946.

The newspaper Bild Friday published what it said were extracts from Hess's suicide note, addressed to his wife Ilse.

It quoted the note as saying: "Dear Ilse, I write these lines shortly before death ... Thanks for all that all of you have done for me and all you have tried to do for me."

A British military spokesman in West Berlin said Friday the circumstances of Hess's death were still being investigated.

Bavarian state justice officials said Thursday no official autopsy had been requested but this did not rule out an examination by a private pathologist.

The body was flown from West Berlin to Bavaria Thursday and handed over to the Hess family. Since then it has been kept in a secret location until burial at the family graveyard.

"We are afraid extremists will try to steal the corpse," Mr. Seidl told Bild.

Wunsiedel is already attracting young neo-fascists and old Nazis who made no secret of their admiration for Hess.

Patrols by uniformed and plainclothes police were a sign of official fears that neo-fascists might try to give Hess a Nazi farewell when he is laid to rest and that left-wing militants would try to stop them.

The right-wing National Zeitung, favourite reading for many former Nazis, paid tribute to Hess, the longest-serving member of the Third Reich leadership, in an article headlined: "The martyr's death of Rudolf Hess."

U.S. to send 2 teams to Vietnam

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Two U.S. government teams will travel to Vietnam next week to discuss the fate of American servicemen missing in action in the Vietnam war, sources said Friday.

The sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said the three days of meetings will begin Tuesday. They will follow a high-level exchange between the two sides in Hanoi early this month.

A U.S. embassy spokesman

declined to comment on the talks. Officials in Washington had said earlier the two sides would meet again in late August.

The United States hopes the Vietnamese will help resolve questions about 1,776 servicemen still listed as missing in action, or MIAs. The Vietnamese have expressed a desire for U.S. aid to help alleviate social problems, some of which are the legacies of the long, bloody war with the United States.

The sources said the two teams

would hold simultaneous talks with Vietnamese counterparts.

Earlier this month, U.S. presidential envoy John W. Vessey, the highest-ranking U.S. official to travel to Vietnam in 10 years, met with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co. Thach.

The two agreed Hanoi would help with the MIA effort while Washington would address Vietnam's request for aid. Details of the agreement were not spelled out at the meeting.

Kidnapped Ivory Coast minister freed

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — President Felix Houphouët-Boigny announced Friday that his kidnapped minister of transport, Aoussou Koffi, had been found in good health.

Mr. Houphouët-Boigny's announcement, read in a communiqué on state radio, was the first official word on the kidnapping since the minister's abduction at gunpoint last Sunday from his home.

The announcement gave no details of how Mr. Koffi's release had been secured, nor any indication of whether any arrests had been made. It said the minister had been found "safe and sound."

The communiqué also thanked the "large number of friends, Ivorian and foreign, who had expressed their sympathy during this event."

Security sources said Interpol was asked to help find two Frenchmen who were former business partners of Mr. Koffi. They were identified as Raymond Perales, 45, and Alain Claustre, 29.

CIA offers summer jobs for college students

QUANTICO, Virginia (AP) — The CIA is offering college students summer jobs but won't say exactly what they'll be doing.

The experience will be available, but won't be anything the students can brag about, CIA spokeswoman Sharon Foster said.

"You cannot talk about what you did here," Ms. Foster said Thursday from the spy agency's headquarters in Langley, Virginia.

The CIA for years has had work-study programmes and summer internships for graduate students. Now the spy agency is opening its doors to up to 30 undergraduates who would like to spend eight weeks next summer learning about espionage.

The agency said it's looking for students who "can meet challenges with imagination." In return, the internship promises to polish students' abilities in "writing, observation, elicitation and clandestine operations."

Ms. Foster could not say precisely what the interns will be doing.

"They wouldn't be writing papers for the president of the United States as undergraduates, or they wouldn't be out recruiting agents because they wouldn't be overclass," she said.

Still, the interns could find themselves in danger. "Anybody who works at the CIA could be in physical jeopardy," she said. "I mean, it's the nature of the beast."

To participate, a student must be a U.S. citizen with above-average grades and must pass CIA security, aptitude and psychological examinations. Interns also must pass a security clearance and sign a secrecy agreement.

"Anybody who comes to work for us, no matter what their security classification, has to sign a secrecy agreement," Ms. Foster said. "They cannot talk about what they did or what organisation they worked for."

8 detained over Colombo parliament attack

COLOMBO (R) — Eight people, including four policemen, have been detained for questioning about the assassination attempt against Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene, police sources said Friday.

They told Reuters three messengers and the man in charge of keys to conference rooms in parliament were among those being interrogated at the criminal investigation division about Tuesday's gun and grenade attack.

Mr. Jayewardene escaped unhurt when a shot was fired and two hand grenades were flung at him during a meeting of ruling party legislators in a committee room in parliament.

A member of parliament was

killed and six cabinet members were injured.

Military sources said the attempt was part of a backlash against a peace accord which seeks to end four years of Tamil rebellion in which 6,000 people have been killed.

Police sources said all those in custody are Sinhalese, the island's majority ethnic group. Many Sinhalese were infuriated by the accord signed on July 29 by Mr. Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Police said the four detained policemen were attached to a security unit permanently stationed in the sprawling parliament complex, an impenetrable-looking building set in a man-

made lake.

The three messengers carried papers in and out of the committee room.

Police sources said the grenades used were Chinese-made and of a type issued only to policemen.

Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa, who was slightly hurt in the attack, told parliament Thursday when it resumed sitting that investigators were working on the theory that the attempt was "internally motivated and externally assisted."

He did not elaborate. He said it was "absolutely necessary to find out the truth, the motive, the aim and those responsible."

U.K. shooting rampage claims 16th victim

HUNGERFORD, England (R) — A 63-year-old woman became the 16th victim of Britain's worst gun massacre when she died in hospital Friday.

Hospital sources said Myrtle Gibbs died from stomach wounds in a nearby Swindon hospital where 11 other people wounded in a gun collector's shooting rampage are still recovering. One of them is in intensive care.

Michael Ryan, 27, rampaged through his hometown of Hungerford two days ago, killing 13 people — including his mother — with a Kalashnikov AK-47 assault rifle after shooting dead a woman in front of her children in a forest. He killed himself six hours later after police cornered

him in a school.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher cut short a holiday in Cornwall, south west England, Thursday to fly to the market town of 5,000 people where she tried to comfort the wounded and families of victims.

"There weren't any words in the English language that could adequately describe what has happened. It's not an accident from which we can get terrible tragedies, it's a crime, an evil crime," Mrs. Thatcher said.

Heeding calls by politicians for a tightening of laws controlling gun ownership in Britain, Mrs. Thatcher said: "If they need to be tightened up, then of course that will be considered, because we

just can't leave anything undone that will help safety and security."

Soviet or Chinese-made Kalashnikov AK-47 assault rifles like that used by Ryan can be bought from shops or by mail order in Britain for about £250 (\$400).

Anyone who has obtained a licence for a 7.62 mm target rifle can legally acquire an AK-47, converted to a semi-automatic state.

The day before Ryan ran amok, he spent an hour practising at one of two gun clubs of which he was a member. The club's owners described him as an average shot who could hit a target with a rifle at 100 metres.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Girl swallows snake in sleep

MOSCOW (R) — An 11-year-old Soviet girl swallowed a 65-centimetre snake in her sleep but vomited it into a washbasin after drinking a salt solution, the Communist Party newspaper Pravda said Wednesday. The girl, who was identified only by her first name Matanet, fell asleep after picking tomatoes in the sun and woke up after starting to choke, Pravda said. She had swallowed a Caucasian cat snake that inhabits her native region of Sabirabad in the Caspian Sea, Republic of Azerbaijan. The girl was rushed to a children's clinic where she was made to drink two litres (3.5 pints) of a salt solution. "With the first portion of water that she vomited, out plopped the whole snake into the washbasin," Pravda said. Akgyul Iskenderov, a biologist who specialises in snake venom, told Pravda the reptile's bite was not lethal, but added: "If it had remained in the stomach for longer and its poison had entered the blood, that would have meant unavoidable trouble." Professor Nazim Akhundov, the specialist who treated the girl in Azerbaijan capital, Baku, was asked if the treatment was complicated. He replied: "I suppose so. There was a swelling the region of her stomach."

Madonna mania hits London concert

LONDON (R) — Raunchy rock star Madonna took the stage for her first London concert, touching off a frenzy of fistfights, fainting fans and flying underwear at Wembley Stadium. Stadium officials said a crowd of 77,000 — and a large contingent of security men — were on hand for the American superstar's two-hour performance. Several fistfights broke out on the packed field and security men used water hoses to cool tempers. Fans who fainted from the excitement were dragged over barriers to prevent them from being crushed. As Madonna danced on stage in a skimpy black outfit, underwear thrown from the audience landed near her feet. She ignored it. The rock star's four-concert British tour has been accompanied by a high-power publicity campaign and banner headlines in the domestic press. Media reports have spoken in awe of Madonna's muscle-bound minders, or bodyguards, and carried breathless accounts of her jogs around London.

Woman gives birth to 32nd child

BUENOS AIRES (R) — An Argentine woman from the western town of Ventura Lloveras has given birth to her 32nd child but says it was her last, the Clarín newspaper has reported. It said Maria Benita Olivera, 49, gave birth to a boy, aided by a midwife at the town hospital. It did not give a date. "I just can't have any more children," Olivera said. "One more and I will die."

Khashoggi's yacht for sale at \$35m

ANTIBES, France (R) — Nabila, a luxury yacht used by Saudi businessman Adnan Khashoggi, is for sale with a price tag of \$35 million. Khashoggi once described himself as one of the richest men in the world but in January this year he was taken to court by a creditor alleging he had failed to pay a debt. The sellers said they were acting on behalf of the yacht's registered owners, a Panamanian company, and declined to discuss the circumstances of the sale. "We believe \$35 million is a very reasonable price and we are hoping for a quick sale," said an official at one of the three companies organising the sale. "It is only a fraction of the building price." Advertisements for the seven-year-old yacht, described as one of the largest private yachts in the world, were placed in U.S. and European business papers this week. It is anchored in the Mediterranean port of Antibes.

Missing army monkey recaptured

TEL AVIV (R) — A Capuchin monkey trained to help disabled Israeli war veterans was found in a Tel Aviv apartment, 24 hours after it escaped from a nearby clinic, police said. The monkey, which absconded, had been assigned to a soldier paralysed during the 1976 Israeli raid on Uganda's Entebbe airport. Police called off a search when the monkey, the size of a domestic cat and wearing a leather collar, was spotted on a balcony and recaptured by a vet. The monkey, one of several in a Defence Ministry project to help disabled servicemen, can operate a computer and a cassette player.

Police officer finds eye-less man

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — A seriously mutilated man, whose eyes were torn out and laid on the sidewalk, was found in downtown Stockholm by a vacationing police officer, a Swedish newspaper said Wednesday. "My impression was that the man had been assaulted," George Krooglik, who found the man, was quoted as saying to Aftonbladet. Krooglik, 35, an Australian police officer from Albany, was in Sweden on holiday with his wife Karen. "The man just sat there very quietly. He was extremely swollen around his eyes and there was a lot of blood in his face, on his clothes and in two large pools on the steps," Krooglik said. The man was taken to hospital where doctors, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he had torn his own eyes out. After the discovery, the ambulance crew immediately went back and found the eyes in the sidewalk. According to Aftonbladet, the 27-year-old man was later identified by the police as mentally ill.

Pigeon killer strikes in Milan

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Someone is killing the pigeons in the heart of Milan. City garbage collectors have picked up about 500 dead pigeons in less than a month, and police say the birds are being killed by a poison mixed with seed. Tourists flock to see the pigeons fluttering about the square near St. Duomo, the Gothic cathedral which is Milan's centerpiece. "We believe the same person poisoned the birds on July 25 and again this week," a police officer, who spoke under condition of anonymity, has said. "He used the same poison, parathion, and struck in the same downtown area near the Duomo." Police say they fear for the health of children playing on the ground where the poisoned seed was spread.

Hamlet's castle opens after strike

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — The castle in which Hamlet pondered whether "to be or not to be" reopened after a 4½ month strike by museum guards. Kronborg Castle in Elsinore, which was Hamlet's castle in William Shakespeare's play, the National Museum, the State Museum of Art, and other national buildings had been shut down in a strike for higher wages by 850 members of the watchmen and security employees union. A compromise proposal was accepted during the weekend, and the museums were able to open again after cleaning. "Of course the stream of tourists is abating, but August is one of the good months. There are still many tourists coming who now can enjoy the museums," said Karin Andreassen of Denmark's tourist board.

Gandhi celebrates 43rd birthday

NEW DELHI (AP) — Hundreds of people, carrying sweets and flower garlands, greeted Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his 43rd birthday, but there was no public celebration. Mr. Gandhi distributed sweets and shook hands with the people at his heavily guarded residence Thursday. Wearing his customary white, long commandos and security men. There was no public celebration because of the severe drought situation in the country. Food Tandon, Mr. Gandhi's social secretary, said: "There is a certain mood of austerity and he made his views known to us that there should be no fuss." President Ramaswamy Venkataraman and his wife Janaki were one of the first guests to arrive at the prime minister's residence. Many women put the traditional Hindu "Tilak" mark on Mr. Gandhi's forehead. Several other people brought him holy offerings of sweets from temples.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SEARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q10762 ♠A9862 ♣25 ♣3
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—If you could bid a non-forcing two hearts, that would be our suggestion. But that action would be forcing, and there's no telling where partner would propel you on what you suspect is a misfit. Pass while the going is good.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠74 ♠AQJ3 ♣25 ♣AKJ10
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?
A.—You have a good hand, but that does not mean you should bid recklessly. Suppose you double. What do you intend doing when partner bids one spade, his most likely response? Anything you choose is seriously flawed. You can avoid that problem by simply overcalling one heart.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AJ982 ♠K27 ♣6542 ♣3
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—You have a very useful hand for partner and, had you had a fourth trump, we would have proposed an invitational jump raise to three hearts. Under the circumstances, however, a conservative two hearts seems the wiser course. With a trump lead, partner might get only one ruff in your hand.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AJ982 ♠K27 ♣6542 ♣3
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Sitting in front of declarer, you need more solid trumps to convert partner's takeout double to penalties by passing. As it is, you might not make more than two trump tricks. We suggest you bid one no trump.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQ985 ♠K7 083 ♠AJ104
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—It is quite likely that your side has a game, but where? You need room to explore while being certain that partner won't suddenly drop the bidding. The first step, therefore, must be to cue-bid two clubs to create a force. Thereafter, partner can't pass as long as you keep introducing new suits.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQ2 ♠AQ8 ♣AK10 ♣J3
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—There is no need to rebid your spades to tell partner you have a good five-card suit—he knows that from your opening bid. More important is to describe a strong, balanced hand with no particular liking for clubs. Bid three no trump.

DR. TAREK SUHEIMAT INTERNIST AND NEPHROLOGIST

Ex-chairman of the Department of Medicine and head of Kidney Disease Section at the King Hussein Medical Centre, announces the opening of his private practice clinic near Khalidi Hospital, Jabal Amman, as from 15th August 1987.

Hours: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 4-6 p.m.

Tel. Clinic: 648933

'Backup system failed to warn' Detroit crash crew

WASHINGTON (AP) — The apparent failure to deploy the wing flaps of Northwest Airlines flight 255 violated a basic rule of flying, but pilots say they're equally disturbed by a breakdown in systems designed to protect against such mistakes.

John Lauber, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board, said Thursday that if a cockpit alarm had sounded the flight crew would have become aware of the incorrect flap in time to halt the takeoff.

A flight recorder taken from the wreckage showed the flaps, which should have been extended to allow for proper lift, were still in their retracted positions. The alarm warning of the incorrect settings was not audible on the plane's cockpit voice recorder, Mr. Lauber said.

But he cautioned that investigators are still uncertain. A Northwest co-pilot who saw the takeoff said the wing flaps were extended, he said.

The McDonnell Douglas MD-80 crashed seconds after lifting off Sunday from the Detroit Metropolitan Airport. The crash killed at least 158 people, making it the nation's second worst aviation disaster.

Investigators said the recording of cockpit conversations during takeoff gave no sign that the warning ever sounded. They said the crew's first indication of a problem was a "stall" warning when the plane already was in the air.

The Airline Pilots Association, which represents 34,000 U.S. pilots, on Thursday criticised suggestions that the crash was just

pilot error, citing the failure of the alarm to go off.

Either there was a mechanical failure in the flaps or, if the pilots erred, "we have a serious failure of the modern cockpit automation and electronic systems," the pilots union said in a statement.

McDonnell Douglas officials declined to discuss the accident specifically.

Meanwhile a 4-year-old girl who was the only survivor of the Northwest Airlines Flight 255 was taken into surgery Thursday for skin grafts on burned portions of her body, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Doctors did not say when the operation on Cecilia Cichan would be completed, "but they did say it would be lengthy," said Sandy Lincoln of C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor,

"They're going to be taking skin from her back and grafting it onto the burns," Lincoln said, adding this was normal treatment for burns.

She said Cecilia, severely burned on her arms and hands, was sedated but "getting better" and had said a few words to relatives at the hospital.

Calls and gifts continued to pour in for Cecilia from as far away as Anchorage, Alaska, where 7-year-old Robin Stafford said she was willing to part with her prized stuffed penguin to try to cheer up the girl.

Cecilia lost her mother, father and 6-year-old brother in the crash. She suffered a broken leg and collarbone, a concussion and burns over 30 per cent of her body.

Doctors expect the girl to make a full recovery.